Committee on Environmental Regulation

Wednesday, March 15, 2006
2:30 – 5:30 PM
212 Knott

REVISED

Allan G. Bense
Speaker

Mitch Needelman
Chair

AGENDA

Environmental Regulation Committee
March 15, 2006
2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
212 Knott

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

II. Opening Remarks

III. HB 1155 by Evers – relating to Contaminated Drycleaning Facilities

IV. HB 1249 by Kendrick – relating to Funding for the Management and Restoration of Apalachicola Bay

V. PCB ENVR 06-02 – relating to Redevelopment of Brownfields

VI. PCB ENVR 06-04 – relating to Conservation and Protection of Natural Resources

VII. PCB ENVR 06-05 – relating to Environmental Protection

VIII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 1155 Contaminated Drycleaning Facilities
SPONSOR(S): Evers
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 2174

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) Environmental Regulation Committee		Kliner	Kliner
2) Agriculture & Environment Appropriations Committee			
3) State Resources Council			
4)			
5)			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The bill will effectively re-open the Drycleaning Solvent Cleanup Program (the DSC Program) for a person who owns or operates (or owned or operated) a dry cleaning facility where there is contamination at the site as a result of an accident that occurred prior to January 1, 1975. "Accident" is defined as an unplanned and unanticipated occurrence beyond the control of the owner or operator that resulted in (1) physical damage to the facility and (2) contamination of the site that may reasonably be determined to have been caused by, or exacerbated by, actions of responders to the occurrence.

The DSC Program would be re-opened to persons whether or not they filed an application of eligibility on or before December 31, 1998, which is the termination date of the DSC Program whereby no cleanup costs would be absorbed at the expense of the dry cleaning restoration funds.

The fiscal impact is indeterminate. The Department of Environmental Protection (the DEP) knows of just one contaminated site that is not included in the program that may be eligible under the proposed law. There is no meaningful way to estimate how many claims of this type could be filed in the future resulting from accidents that occurred as contemplated by the bill language.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

Promotes Personal Responsibility: This bill effectively re-opens the Drycleaning Solvent Cleanup Program (the DSC Program) for a person who owns or operates (or owned or operated) a dry cleaning facility and there is contamination at the site as a result of an accident.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Present Situation

Dry Cleaning Generally:
Dry cleaners are facilities engaged in the cleaning of fabrics in a nonaqueous solvent by means of one or more washes in a solvent, extraction of excess solvent by spinning, and drying by tumbling in an airstream. Such facilities include a washer, dryer, filter, and purification systems, emission control equipment, waste disposal systems, holding tanks, pumps and attendant piping and valves.

Dry cleaning facilities utilizing the solvent perchloroethylene, or "perc," which is considered an air toxic or hazardous pollutant, are eligible to operate as a business in Florida under the terms of a Title V air permit pursuant to the requirements of Chapter 62-213, Florida Administrative Code.

Drycleaning Solvent Cleanup Program History:
In 1994, the Legislature enacted Chapter 94-355, Laws of Florida., to provide a source of funding for rehabilitation of sites and drinking water supplies contaminated by dry cleaning solvents. The act provided for the establishment of a registration program under which dry cleaning facilities and wholesale suppliers were to register by June 30, 1995.

The Drycleaning Solvent Cleanup Program is administered by the DEP. Eligibility criteria for participation are as follows:

- The facility must have registered with the department.
- The facility was determined to have complied with department rules.
- The facility was not operated in a grossly negligent manner.
- The facility was not listed on the Federal "Superfund" list.
- The facility was not under orders from the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and was not required to have a hazardous waste permit.

Further, the real property owner or the owner or operator of the dry cleaning facility or the wholesale supply facility must not have willfully concealed the discharge of dry cleaning solvents, must have remitted all taxes due, must have provided evidence of contamination by dry cleaning solvents pursuant to DEP rules, and must have reported the contamination prior to December 31, 2005.

Generally, the program provides that the cleanup costs are to be absorbed at the expense of the dry cleaning funds available in the Water Quality Assurance Trust Fund. Deductibles are paid by the applicant as follows:

- For contamination reported by 6/30/97 -- $1,000 per incident.
- For contamination reported from 7/1/97 thru 9/30/98 -- $5,000 per incident.
- For contamination reported from 10/1/98 thru 12/31/98 -- $10,000 per incident.

For contamination reported after December 31, 1998, no cleanup costs will be absorbed at the expense of the dry cleaning restoration funds. In other words, contamination reported after this date will be cleaned up at the expense of the reporting entity.

Liability Protection is Provided Under the Program:
Dry cleaning facility owners or operators, wholesale supply facilities, and real property owners are afforded certain liability protections and are not subject to administrative or judicial action brought by or on behalf of any person, or state or local government, for dry cleaning solvents discharges provided certain specified conditions are met. Each owner or operator of a currently operating dry cleaning facility must obtain third-party liability insurance for $1 million.

A real property owner may conduct a voluntary cleanup pursuant to DEP rules whether or not the facility has been determined by the DEP to be eligible for the program. A real property owner or any other party that conducts such voluntary cleanup may not seek cost recovery from the program funds, but is immune from liability to any person, or state or local government, to compel site rehabilitation or pay for the cost of rehabilitation of environmental contamination, or to pay any fines or penalties regarding rehabilitation, so long as the real property owner complies with certain specified conditions.

Funding the Program
Funding for the program comes from three main sources:

- A two percent tax on gross receipts on businesses engaged in dry cleaning and laundering,
- A $5 per gallon tax on perc sold to facilities in the state, a deductible payment based on the date of application for the program, and
- A $100 registration fee collected from the facilities.

According to the DEP, the annual collections have averaged $7.6 million. There are over 1,400 sites in the closed program and at the current rate of clean-up, it will take over 60 years to clean-up all sites.

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill will effectively re-open the DSC Program for a person who owns or operates (or owned or operated) a dry cleaning facility where there is (or was) contamination at the site as a result of an accident which occurred prior to January 1, 1975. "Accident" is defined as an unplanned and unanticipated occurrence beyond the control of the owner or operator that resulted in (1) physical damage to the facility and (2) contamination of the site that may reasonably be determined to have been caused by, or exacerbated by, actions of responders to the occurrence.

The DSC Program would be re-opened to persons whether or not they filed an application of eligibility on or before December 31, 1998, which is the termination date of the program whereby no cleanup costs would be absorbed at the expense of the dry cleaning restoration funds.

> Example 1: On April 6, 2004, a dump truck driver sets the parking brake and leaves the cab of his vehicle to check his load. The braking system fails and the truck rolls down a hill and crashes into the Pressed 4 Time dry-cleaning facility, extensively damaging the building and breaching the perc storage container. The spill is otherwise controlled by the containment system that was installed by the owner; however, the firemen responding to the accident hoses down the site which results in a perc contamination of the surrounding land area. Under the proposed law, the Pressed 4 Time owner/operator would not be permitted to submit the site for cleanup under the otherwise closed program.
>
> Example 2: The same scenario as above, except the date of the accident occurred on April 6, 1974. The owner did not file an application under the program. Under the proposed law, the owner would be eligible for cleanup under the otherwise closed program.

Example 3: The same scenario as above, except that the responders do not hose down the site and do not exacerbate the spill. As such, the conditions do not permit eligibility into the program and any contamination will be the responsibility of the owner/operator.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1 Amends s. 376.3078, Florida Statutes, adding a new paragraph (i) to subsection (3), and redesignating all subsequent paragraphs, providing that a dry cleaning facility where there exists contamination as a result of an accident that occurred prior to January 1, 1975, is eligible under the Drycleaning Solvent Cleanup Program, regardless of whether an application for eligibility was filed on or before the termination date of the program. This section also provides a definition of the term "accident."

Section 2 Provides an effective date.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

   See Part II, Section D. Fiscal Comments.

2. Expenditures:

   See Part II, Section D. Fiscal Comments.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

   None.

2. Expenditures:

   None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

The bill would re-open the Drycleaning Solvent Cleanup Program for an owner or operator of a dry cleaning facility with contamination that is the result of an accident that occurred prior to January 1, 1975, and which the contamination was caused or exacerbated by responders to the accident.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

The program originally provided for deductibles paid by the applicant. The deductible amounts varied in cost from $1,000 to $10,000, depending on the date the application was filed. The bill does not provide for deductibles so it is assumed that the entire cost of the cleanup would be borne by the trust fund.

Clean-up of a contaminated facility can range from approximately $30,000 to $2 million; the average cost being approximately $475,000. The DEP knows of only one incident whereby an auto accident and the actions of responders exacerbated a spill of perc. The site in question is not currently eligible for inclusion in the program for clean-up. The DEP has no record of how many other potential sites may be affected by this proposed legislation. According to the DEP, if the program is not reopened as envisioned by the bill and under current funding levels, the clean-up will take approximately 60 years.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

   Not applicable because this bill does not appear to: require cities or counties to spend funds or take actions requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that cities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with cities or counties.

2. Other:

   None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

No rulemaking authority is required to implement the provisions of this bill.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to contaminated drycleaning facilities; amending s. 376.3078, F.S.; providing that contaminated drycleaning facilities damaged by accident prior to a specified date are eligible for state-funded site rehabilitation; defining the term "accident"; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 376.3078, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

376.3078 Drycleaning facility restoration; funds; uses; liability; recovery of expenditures.--

(3) REHABILITATION LIABILITY.--

(a) In accordance with the eligibility provisions of this section, a real property owner, nearby real property owner, or person who owns or operates, or who otherwise could be liable as a result of the operation of, a drycleaning facility or a wholesale supply facility is not liable for or subject to administrative or judicial action brought by or on behalf of any state or local government or agency thereof or by or on behalf of any person to compel rehabilitation or pay for the costs of rehabilitation of environmental contamination resulting from the discharge of drycleaning solvents. Subject to the delays that may occur as a result of the prioritization of sites under this section for any qualified site, costs for activities described in paragraph (2)(b) shall be absorbed at the expense of the

drycleaning facility restoration funds, without recourse to reimbursement or recovery from the real property owner, nearby real property owner, or owner or operator of the drycleaning facility or the wholesale supply facility. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, this subsection applies to causes of action accruing on or after the effective date of this act and applies retroactively to causes of action accruing before the effective date of this act for which a lawsuit has not been filed before the effective date of this act.

(b) With regard to drycleaning facilities or wholesale supply facilities that have operated as drycleaning facilities or wholesale supply facilities on or after October 1, 1994, any such drycleaning facility or wholesale supply facility at which there exists contamination by drycleaning solvents shall be eligible under this subsection regardless of when the drycleaning contamination was discovered, provided that the drycleaning facility or the wholesale supply facility:

1. Has been registered with the department;

2. Is determined by the department to be in compliance with the department's rules regulating drycleaning solvents, drycleaning facilities, or wholesale supply facilities on or after November 19, 1980;

3. Has not been operated in a grossly negligent manner at any time on or after November 19, 1980;

4. Has not been identified to qualify for listing, nor is listed, on the National Priority List pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 as amended by the Superfund Amendments and

Reauthorization Act of 1986, and as subsequently amended;

5. Is not under an order from the United States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to s. 3008(h) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act as amended (42 U.S.C.A. s. 6928(h)), or has not obtained and is not required to obtain a permit for the operation of a hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facility, a postclosure permit, or a permit pursuant to the federal Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984;

and provided that the real property owner or the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility or the wholesale supply facility has not willfully concealed the discharge of drycleaning solvents and has remitted all taxes due pursuant to ss. 376.70 and 376.75, has provided documented evidence of contamination by drycleaning solvents as required by the rules developed pursuant to this section, has reported the contamination prior to December 31, 1998, and has not denied the department access to the site.

(c) With regard to drycleaning facilities or wholesale supply facilities that cease to be operated as drycleaning facilities or wholesale supply facilities prior to October 1, 1994, such facilities, at which there exists contamination by drycleaning solvents, shall be eligible under this subsection regardless of when the contamination was discovered, provided that the drycleaning facility or wholesale supply facility:

1. Was not determined by the department, within a reasonable time after the department's discovery, to have been

out of compliance with the department rules regulating drycleaning solvents, drycleaning facilities, or wholesale supply facilities implemented at any time on or after November 19, 1980;

2. Was not operated in a grossly negligent manner at any time on or after November 19, 1980;

3. Has not been identified to qualify for listing, nor is listed, on the National Priority List pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, and as subsequently amended; and

4. Is not under an order from the United States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to s. 3008(h) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as amended, or has not obtained and is not required to obtain a permit for the operation of a hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facility, a postclosure permit, or a permit pursuant to the federal Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984;

and provided that the real property owner or the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility or the wholesale supply facility has not willfully concealed the discharge of drycleaning solvents, has provided documented evidence of contamination by drycleaning solvents as required by the rules developed pursuant to this section, has reported the contamination prior to December 31, 1998, and has not denied the department access to the site.

(d) For purposes of determining eligibility, a drycleaning facility or wholesale supply facility was operated in a grossly negligent manner if the department determines that the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility or the wholesale supply facility:

1. Willfully discharged drycleaning solvents onto the soils or into the waters of the state after November 19, 1980, with the knowledge, intent, and purpose that the discharge would result in harm to the environment or to public health or result in a violation of the law;

2. Willfully concealed a discharge of drycleaning solvents with the knowledge, intent, and purpose that the concealment would result in harm to the environment or to public health or result in a violation of the law; or

3. Willfully violated a local, state, or federal law or rule regulating the operation of drycleaning facilities or wholesale supply facilities with the knowledge, intent, and purpose that the act would result in harm to the environment or to public health or result in a violation of the law.

(e)1. With respect to eligible drycleaning solvent contamination reported to the department as part of a completed application as required by the rules developed pursuant to this section by June 30, 1997, the costs of activities described in paragraph (2)(b) shall be absorbed at the expense of the drycleaning facility restoration funds, less a $1,000 deductible per incident, which shall be paid by the applicant or current property owner. The deductible shall be paid within 60 days after receipt of billing by the department.

2. For contamination reported to the department as part of a completed application as required by the rules developed under this section, from July 1, 1997, through September 30, 1998, the costs shall be absorbed at the expense of the drycleaning facility restoration funds, less a $5,000 deductible per incident. The deductible shall be paid within 60 days after receipt of billing by the department.

3. For contamination reported to the department as part of a completed application as required by the rules developed pursuant to this section from October 1, 1998, through December 31, 1998, the costs shall be absorbed at the expense of the drycleaning facility restoration funds, less a $10,000 deductible per incident. The deductible shall be paid within 60 days after receipt of billing by the department.

4. For contamination reported after December 31, 1998, no costs will be absorbed at the expense of the drycleaning facility restoration funds.

(f) ~~The provisions of~~ This subsection does ~~shall~~ not apply to any site where the department has been denied site access to implement the provisions of this section.

(g) In order to identify those drycleaning facilities and wholesale supply facilities that have experienced contamination resulting from the discharge of drycleaning solvents and to ensure the most expedient rehabilitation of such sites, the owners and operators of drycleaning facilities and wholesale supply facilities are encouraged to detect and report contamination from drycleaning solvents related to the operation of drycleaning facilities and wholesale supply facilities. The

department shall establish reasonable guidelines for the written reporting of drycleaning contamination and shall distribute forms to registrants under s. 376.303(1)(d), and to other interested parties upon request, to be used for such purpose.

(h) A report of drycleaning solvent contamination at a drycleaning facility or wholesale supply facility made to the department by any person in accordance with this subsection, or any rules promulgated pursuant hereto, may not be used directly as evidence of liability for such discharge in any civil or criminal trial arising out of the discharge.

(i) A drycleaning facility at which contamination by drycleaning solvents exists and which was damaged by accident prior to January 1, 1975, is eligible under this subsection, regardless of whether an application for eligibility was filed on or before December 31, 1998. As used in this paragraph, the term "accident" means an unplanned and unanticipated occurrence beyond the control of the owner or operator of a drycleaning facility which resulted in physical damage to the facility when the actions of responders to such occurrence could reasonably be determined to have caused or exacerbated contamination by drycleaning solvents at such facility.

(j) ~~(i)~~ ~~The provisions of~~ This subsection does ~~shall~~ not apply to drycleaning facilities owned or operated by the state or Federal Government.

(k) ~~(j)~~ Due to the value of Florida's potable water, it is the intent of the Legislature that the department initiate and facilitate as many cleanups as possible utilizing the resources of the state, local governments, and the private sector. The

department is authorized to adopt necessary rules and enter into contracts to carry out the intent of this subsection and to limit or prevent future contamination from the operation of drycleaning facilities and wholesale supply facilities.

(l) ~~(k)~~ It is not the intent of the Legislature that the state become the owner or operator of a drycleaning facility or wholesale supply facility by engaging in state-conducted cleanup.

(m) ~~(l)~~ The owner, operator, and either the real property owner or agent of the real property owner may apply for the Drycleaning Contamination Cleanup Program by jointly submitting a completed application package to the department pursuant to the rules that shall be adopted by the department. If the application cannot be jointly submitted, then the applicant shall provide notice of the application to other interested parties. After reviewing the completed application package, the department shall notify the applicant in writing as to whether the drycleaning facility or wholesale supply facility is eligible for the program. If the department denies eligibility for a completed application package, the notice of denial shall specify the reasons for the denial, including specific and substantive findings of fact, and shall constitute agency action subject to the provisions of chapter 120. For the purposes of ss. 120.569 and 120.57, the real property owner and the owner and operator of a drycleaning facility or wholesale supply facility which is the subject of a decision by the department with regard to eligibility shall be deemed to be parties whose substantial interests are determined by the department's

decision to approve or deny eligibility.

(n) ~~(m)~~ Eligibility under this subsection applies to the drycleaning facility or wholesale supply facility, and attendant site rehabilitation applies to such facilities and to any place where drycleaning-solvent contamination migrating from the eligible facility is found. A determination of eligibility or ineligibility shall not be affected by any conveyance of the ownership of the drycleaning facility, wholesale supply facility, or the real property on which such facility is located. Nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed to allow a drycleaning facility or wholesale supply facility which would not be eligible under this subsection to become eligible as a result of the conveyance of the ownership of the ineligible drycleaning facility or wholesale supply facility to another owner.

(o) ~~(n)~~ If funding for the drycleaning contamination rehabilitation program is eliminated, the provisions of this subsection shall not apply.

(p) ~~(o)~~ 1. The department shall have the authority to cancel the eligibility of any drycleaning facility or wholesale supply facility that submits fraudulent information in the application package or that fails to continuously comply with the conditions of eligibility set forth in this subsection, or has not remitted all fees pursuant to s. 376.303(1)(d), or has not remitted the deductible payments pursuant to paragraph (e).

2. If the program eligibility of a drycleaning facility or wholesale supply facility is subject to cancellation pursuant to this section, then the department shall notify the applicant in

writing of its intent to cancel program eligibility and shall state the reason or reasons for cancellation. The applicant shall have 45 days to resolve the reason or reasons for cancellation to the satisfaction of the department. If, after 45 days, the applicant has not resolved the reason or reasons for cancellation to the satisfaction of the department, the order of cancellation shall become final and shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 120.

(q) ~~(p)~~ A real property owner shall not be subject to administrative or judicial action brought by or on behalf of any person or local or state government, or agency thereof, for gross negligence or violations of department rules prior to January 1, 1990, which resulted from the operation of a drycleaning facility, provided that the real property owner demonstrates that:

1. The real property owner had ownership in the property at the time of the gross negligence or violation of department rules and did not cause or contribute to contamination on the property;

2. The real property owner was a distinct and separate entity from the owner and operator of the drycleaning facility, and did not have an ownership interest in or share in the profits of the drycleaning facility;

3. The real property owner did not participate in the operation or management of the drycleaning facility;

4. The real property owner complied with all discharge reporting requirements, and did not conceal any contamination; and

5. The department has not been denied access.

The defense provided by this paragraph does not apply to any liability under a federally delegated program.

(r) ~~(q)~~ A person whose property becomes contaminated due to geophysical or hydrologic reasons from the operation of a nearby drycleaning or wholesale supply facility and whose property has never been occupied by a business that utilized or stored drycleaning solvents or similar constituents is not subject to administrative or judicial action brought by or on behalf of another to compel the rehabilitation of or the payment of the costs for the rehabilitation of sites contaminated by drycleaning solvents, provided that the person:

1. Does not own and has never held an ownership interest in, or shared in the profits of, the drycleaning facility operated at the source location;

2. Did not participate in the operation or management of the drycleaning facility at the source location; and

3. Did not cause, contribute to, or exacerbate the release or threat of release of any hazardous substance through any act or omission.

The defense provided by this paragraph does not apply to any liability under a federally delegated program.

(s) ~~(r)~~ Nothing in this subsection precludes the department from considering information and documentation provided by private consultants, local government programs, federal agencies, or any individual which is relevant to an eligibility

determination if the department provides the applicant with reasonable access to the information and its origin.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 1249 Funding for the Management and Restoration of Apalachicola Bay
SPONSOR(S): Kendrick
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** CS/SB 1208

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) Environmental Regulation Committee		Kliner	Kliner
2) Agriculture & Environment Appropriations Committee			
3) State Resources Council			
4)			
5)			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The bill repeals the 50-cents per bag surcharge on oysters harvested from the waters of the Apalachicola Bay which is paid by the wholesale dealer first receiving, using, or selling the oysters, and which is distributed for oyster management and restoration programs in the bay. The surcharge is replaced with a $300,000 annual documentary stamp tax distribution to the General Inspection Trust Fund within the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (DACS) to be used to fund oyster management and restoration programs in the Bay and other areas of the state.

On the effective date of the act, the Department of Revenue is directed to cease all efforts to collect uncollected surcharge revenues. The committee substitute substantially amends ss. 201.15 and 370.07, F.S.; and amends ss. 161.091 and 213.05, F.S.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

Provide limited government: On the effective date of the act, the Department of Revenue is directed to cease all efforts to collect uncollected surcharge revenues.

Ensure lower taxes. The bill repeals the 50-cents per bag surcharge on oysters harvested from the waters of the Apalachicola Bay which is paid by the wholesale dealer first receiving, using, or selling the oysters, and which is distributed for oyster management and restoration programs in the bay.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Current Situation

Apalachicola Bay Oysters

The oyster fishery in Apalachicola Bay is the most productive of the oyster harvesting areas in Florida, and typically provides 80-90 percent of the statewide oyster harvest. The fishery is managed by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) through gear restrictions, daily bag limits, and seasonal closures.[1]

The oyster management and restoration program is managed by the DACS and includes:

- Oyster relaying to move live oysters from polluted areas closed for harvest to cleaner, approved areas where the oysters cleanse themselves and become suitable for harvesting.
- Oyster transplanting to move seed oysters from areas of low growth to more favorable areas.
- Shell planting to deposit oyster shells on the bay bottom to rehabilitate oyster bars or create new ones. The shells provide a hard surface for oyster larvae to settle on and begin to grow.

The waters for harvesting of shellfish are classified as:

- Approved - normally open to harvesting. Red tides, sewage spills, and weather conditions such as hurricanes, may cause the Bay to be closed temporarily.
- Conditionally Approved - closed to harvest periodically because of pollution events such as excessive rain or increased river flow.
- Restricted Area - Open to relaying or controlled purification allowed only by special permit and with supervision. Red tides, sewage spills and weather events may cause the harvest area to be closed.
- Conditionally Restricted Area - Periodic suspension of relay and controlled purification activities based on pollution events.
- Prohibited Area - No harvesting due to actual or potential pollution.

Per Bag Surcharge:

The 1989 Legislature enacted ch. 89-175, Laws of Florida, to establish a 50-cents per bag surcharge on oysters harvested from the waters of the Apalachicola Bay. The surcharge was to be paid by the wholesale dealer first receiving, using or selling the oysters after harvest from the Bay. The Department of Revenue was designated as the collection agent and the surcharge was to be transferred quarterly into the Apalachicola Bay Conservation Trust Fund of the Department of Natural Resources (now the Department of Environmental Protection). The funds were to be used by the department to fund oyster management and restoration programs in Apalachicola Bay.

[1] Information relating to the oyster management and restoration program provided by the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services at http://www.floridaaquaculture.com/SEAS/SEAS_intro.htm

Prior to the transfer of the oyster management and restoration program to the DACS in the 2000 Regular Session, several laws were enacted which affected the oyster management and restoration program:

- Chapter 94-356, Laws of Florida, transferred the program to the newly created Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).
- Chapter 96-321, Laws of Florida, provided that surcharge revenues be deposited into the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund at DEP.
- Chapter 99-245, Laws of Florida, transferred the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund to the FWC.

In the 2000 Regular Session, the Legislature enacted ch. 2000-197 to transfer responsibility for the oyster management and restoration program to the Division of Aquaculture at the DACS. The Department of Revenue remained the state's collection agent and was directed to transfer surcharge revenues collected to the General Inspection Trust Fund at the DACS. The current oyster management and restoration program covers the Apalachicola Bay and oyster harvesting areas in Dixie, Levy, and Wakulla counties. Additional funding for the program is provided by the DACS.

Since the inception of the surcharge, collection revenues have fluctuated and program costs often exceed revenues collected. The fairness of the surcharge has been questioned by the harvesters who have seen a reduction in the per-bag-payments they receive from the wholesale dealers. Wholesale dealers in the Bay can sell bags of oysters harvested from other areas of the state without collecting or submitting the surcharge which is not assessed for oysters harvested outside of the Bay. In addition, the DACS runs the oyster management and restoration program in areas outside of the Bay, but only the Apalachicola Bay harvesters and dealers pay any of the program costs.

Oyster Surcharge Collection Summary

The FWC is responsible for providing the Department of Revenue with an annual list of oyster wholesale dealers who must have a Saltwater Products License issued by the FWC in order to sell saltwater products to any person, firm, or corporation except directly to the consumer. This list is used by the DOR to collect the per bag surcharge.

In the summer of 2004, the Department of Revenue (DOR) began a compliance enforcement effort to begin collecting overdue surcharge revenues. Registered and potentially unregistered wholesale dealers were notified by certified letter that the DOR was attempting to collect the unpaid surcharge. Second notices were mailed in September 2004. In February 2005, estimated bills totaling approximately $195,000 in uncollected surcharge revenues were sent to 10 wholesale dealers who appeared to owe surcharge monies over the past three years, and in April 2005, estimated bills totaling approximately $82,980 were sent to an additional 7 wholesale dealers who appear to owe surcharges monies over the past three years. The estimated bills also assessed penalties for late payment. The DOR has collected $27,319.66 in the compliance effort - $24,455 of surcharge revenues, $133.73 in penalties, and $2,731.21 in interest.

Active Dealer information	FY 2000-01	FY 2001-02	FY 2002-03	FY 2003-04	FY 2004-05 (through 10/04)
Revenue	$69,723	$58,877	$26,723	$38,600	$13,183
# of active dealers	19	19	19	19	25
# of active dealers paying surcharge	10	9	6	14	7

Source: Chart information relating to active dealers provided by the Department of Revenue.

The Apalachicola Bay oyster beds were closed off and on through the summer and fall of 2005 due to damage caused by hurricanes and red tide related health issues. As a result of the closures, the DOR has not been pursuing the compliance enforcement project.

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill repeals the 50-cents per bag surcharge on oysters harvested from the waters of the Apalachicola Bay which is paid by the wholesale dealer first receiving, using, or selling the oysters, and which is distributed for oyster management and restoration programs in the bay. The surcharge is replaced with a $300,000 annual documentary stamp tax distribution to the General Inspection Trust Fund within the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (DACS) to be used to fund oyster management and restoration programs in the Bay.

On the effective date of the act, the Department of Revenue is directed to cease all efforts to collect uncollected surcharge revenues. The committee substitute substantially amends ss. 201.15 and 370.07, F.S.; and amends ss. 161.091 and 213.05, F.S.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Amends paragraph (e) of subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection 2, and subsection (11) of s. 201.15, F.S. to allow the distribution of documentary stamp tax revenues to the General Inspection Trust Fund in the DACS. This section provides that after annual distribution of documentary stamp tax revenues to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund or the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund, $300,000 shall be paid to the credit of the General Inspection Trust Fund to fund oyster management and restoration programs in Apalachicola Bay.

Section 2. Effective July 1, 2007, amends paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of s. 201.15, F.S., as amended by section 26 of ch. 2005-290, Laws of Florida, and paragraph (a) of subsection (2), and subsection (11) of s. 201.15, F.S., as amended by section 1 of ch. 2005-92, Laws of Florida, to allow the distribution of documentary stamp tax revenues to the General Inspection Trust Fund in the DACS. Provides that after the annual distribution of documentary stamp tax revenues to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund or the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund, $300,000 shall paid to the credit of the General Inspection Trust Fund to fund oyster management and restoration programs in Apalachicola Bay and other areas of the state. This section removes language from subsection (13) of s. 201.15 F.S. relating to recommendations to the Legislature by the Acquisition and Restoration Council regarding the repeal.

Section 3. Amends subsection (3) of s. 370.07, F.S. to repeal the 50-cents per bag surcharge assessed on each bag of oysters harvested from the waters of the Apalachicola Bay. This section repeals requirements that wholesale dealers certify that the surcharge has been paid or will be paid by the wholesale dealer first receiving the oysters. The section repeals provisions requiring that the Department of Revenue:

- Keep records showing the amount of collected surcharge.
- Transfer surcharge collected into the General Inspection Trust Fund of the DACS on a quarterly basis.
- Adopt emergency rules to implement the surcharge program.
- Promulgate rules to establish audit procedures for wholesale dealers, assess wholesale dealers for delinquency, and prescribe and publish forms to effectuate the collection of the surcharge.

This section further requires that the DACS use documentary stamp tax revenues paid to the credit of the General Inspection Trust Fund to fund oyster management and restoration programs in Apalachicola Bay.

Section 4. Amends paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 72.011, F.S., eliminating a statutory cross reference to conform.

Section 5. Amends subsection (3) of s. 161.091, F.S., to conform.

Section 6. Amends s. 213.05, F.S., to delete the responsibility of the Department of Revenue for administering the 50-cents per bag surcharge established in s. 370.07(3), F.S.

Section 7. Amends paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 312.053, F.S., eliminating a statutory cross reference to conform.

Section 8. Directs the Department of Revenue to cease all efforts to collect any uncollected surcharge revenues due or payable on the effective date of the act.

Section 9. Provides that the act shall take effect upon becoming a law, except as otherwise provided in the act.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

General Inspection Trust Fund (GITF)	FY 06-07	FY 07-08	FY 08-09
Recurring	$300,000	$300,000	$300,000
Estimate collection by Department of Revenue and transferred to DACS GITF Eliminated in bill	($ 85,000)	($ 85,000)	($ 85,000)

2. Expenditures:

Current Recurring

Salaries and benefits (6 FTEs)	$258,781	$258,781	$258,781
OPS	11,664	11,664	11,664
Expenses	28,479	28,479	28,479
Total Recurring	$298,924	$298,924	$298,924

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

The bill will have a positive private sector impact because of the reduction in costs to oyster harvesters and wholesale dealers who pay the 50-cents per bag surcharge.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

The bill provides that $300,000 of documentary stamp tax revenue will be credited to the General Inspection Trust Fund at the DACS. Fiscal information provided by the department indicates that the surcharge generates $85,000 in revenue and that the trust fund provides an additional $214,000 for

program expenses, including salaries and benefits for 6 FTEs. A recurring funding source will provide the Division of Aquaculture with the ability to spend current dollars on other division related responsibilities, such as water quality testing, for which spending authority exists but for which there are insufficient funds.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

   Not applicable because this bill does not appear to: require the counties or cities to spend funds or take an action requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that cities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with cities or counties.

2. Other:

   None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to funding for the management and restoration of Apalachicola Bay; amending s. 201.15, F.S.; authorizing the distribution of certain revenues from the excise tax on documents to the General Inspection Trust Fund of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; providing for such funds to be used for oyster management and restoration in Apalachicola Bay; amending s. 370.07, F.S.; abolishing a surcharge upon oysters harvested from Apalachicola Bay; deleting certain requirements related to the surcharge; providing for the use of moneys from the General Inspection Trust Fund for oyster management and restoration in Apalachicola Bay; prohibiting the Department of Revenue from collecting uncollected moneys payable from the surcharge; amending ss. 72.011, 161.091, 213.05, and 213.053, F.S., to conform; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection (2), and subsection (11) of section 201.15, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

201.15 Distribution of taxes collected.--All taxes collected under this chapter shall be distributed as follows and shall be subject to the service charge imposed in s. 215.20(1), except that such service charge shall not be levied against any portion of taxes pledged to debt service on bonds to the extent

that the amount of the service charge is required to pay any amounts relating to the bonds:

(1) Sixty-two and sixty-three hundredths percent of the remaining taxes collected under this chapter shall be used for the following purposes:

(e) The remainder of the moneys distributed under this subsection, after the required payments under paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d), shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the General Revenue Fund of the state to be used and expended for the purposes for which the General Revenue Fund was created and exists by law or to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund, ~~or to~~ the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund, or the General Inspection Trust Fund as provided in subsection (11).

(2) Seven and fifty-six hundredths percent of the remaining taxes collected under this chapter shall be used for the following purposes:

(a) Beginning in the month following the final payment for a fiscal year under paragraph (1)(c), available moneys shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the General Revenue Fund of the state to be used and expended for the purposes for which the General Revenue Fund was created and exists by law or to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund, ~~or to~~ the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund, or the General Inspection Trust Fund as provided in subsection (11). Payments made under this paragraph shall continue until the cumulative amount credited to the General Revenue Fund for the fiscal year under this paragraph equals the cumulative

payments made under paragraph (1)(c) for the same fiscal year.

(11)(a) From the moneys specified in paragraphs (1)(e) ~~(1)(d)~~ and (2)(a) and prior to deposit of any moneys into the General Revenue Fund, $30 million shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund in fiscal year 2000-2001 and each fiscal year thereafter, to be used for the preservation and repair of the state's beaches as provided in ss. 161.091-161.212, and $2 million shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund to be used for marine mammal care as provided in s. 370.0603(3).

(b) After the payments required in paragraph (a), $300,000 shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the General Inspection Trust Fund in fiscal year 2006-2007 and each fiscal year thereafter, to be used to fund oyster management and restoration programs in Apalachicola Bay as provided in s. 370.07(3).

Section 2. Effective July 1, 2007, paragraph (e) of subsection (1) and subsections (2), (11), and (13) of section 201.15, Florida Statutes, as amended by section 1 of chapter 2005-92, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:

201.15 Distribution of taxes collected.--All taxes collected under this chapter shall be distributed as follows and shall be subject to the service charge imposed in s. 215.20(1), except that such service charge shall not be levied against any portion of taxes pledged to debt service on bonds to the extent that the amount of the service charge is required to pay any amounts relating to the bonds:

(1) Sixty-two and sixty-three hundredths percent of the remaining taxes collected under this chapter shall be used for the following purposes:

(e) The remainder of the moneys distributed under this subsection, after the required payments under paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d), shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the General Revenue Fund to be used and expended for the purposes for which the General Revenue Fund was created and exists by law or to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund, ~~or to~~ the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund, or the General Inspection Trust Fund as provided in subsection (11).

(2) The lesser of seven and fifty-six hundredths percent of the remaining taxes collected under this chapter or $85.1 ~~$84.9~~ million in each fiscal year shall be used for the following purposes:

(a) Beginning in the month following the final payment for a fiscal year under paragraph (1)(c), available moneys shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the General Revenue Fund to be used and expended for the purposes for which the General Revenue Fund was created and exists by law or to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund, ~~or to~~ the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund, or the General Inspection Trust Fund as provided in subsection (11). Payments made under this paragraph shall continue until the cumulative amount credited to the General Revenue Fund for the fiscal year under this paragraph equals the cumulative payments made under paragraph (1)(c) for the same fiscal year.

(b) The remainder of the moneys distributed under this subsection shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Land Acquisition Trust Fund. Sums deposited in the fund pursuant to this subsection may be used for any purpose for which funds deposited in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund may lawfully be used.

(11)(a) From the moneys specified in paragraphs (1)(e) ~~(1)(d)~~ and (2)(a) and prior to deposit of any moneys into the General Revenue Fund, $30 million shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund in fiscal year 2000-2001 and each fiscal year thereafter, to be used for the preservation and repair of the state's beaches as provided in ss. 161.091-161.212, and $2 million shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund to be used for marine mammal care as provided in s. 370.0603(3).

(b) After the payments required in paragraph (a), $300,000 shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the General Inspection Trust Fund in fiscal year 2006-2007 and each fiscal year thereafter, to be used to fund oyster management and restoration programs in Apalachicola Bay as provided in s. 370.07(3).

(13) The distribution of proceeds deposited into the Water Management Lands Trust Fund and the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund, pursuant to subsections (4) and (5), shall not be used for land acquisition, but may be used for preacquisition costs associated with land purchases. The Legislature intends that the Florida Forever program supplant the acquisition

programs formerly authorized under ss. 259.032 and 373.59. ~~Prior to the 2005 Regular Session of the Legislature, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall review and make recommendations to the Legislature concerning the need to repeal this provision. Based on these recommendations, the Legislature shall review the need to repeal this provision during the 2005 Regular Session.~~

Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 370.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

370.07 Wholesale and retail saltwater products dealers; regulation.--

(3) APALACHICOLA BAY OYSTER MANAGEMENT AND RESTORATION PROGRAM ~~SURCHARGE~~.--

~~(a) For purposes of this section, "bag" means an amount of oysters with shells weighing approximately 60 pounds.~~

~~(b) Effective October 1, 1989, there shall be assessed a surcharge of 50 cents on each bag of oysters to be paid by the wholesale dealer first receiving, using, or selling the oysters after harvesting from the waters of Apalachicola Bay.~~

~~(c)1. Each wholesale dealer shall certify, on such forms as may be prescribed by the Department of Revenue, to any subsequent purchasing wholesale dealer or other purchaser that the surcharge imposed by this subsection has been paid or will be paid by such wholesale dealer first receiving the oysters.~~

~~2. In the case where the harvester is also the wholesale dealer, such wholesale dealer shall maintain documentation, on forms as may be prescribed by the Department of Revenue, adequate to establish that the surcharge has been paid or will be paid by such wholesale dealer.~~

~~3. In such case where the wholesale dealer is also the retail dealer under paragraph (1)(b), such wholesale dealer shall maintain documentation, on forms as may be prescribed by the Department of Revenue, adequate to establish that the surcharge has been paid or will be paid by such wholesale dealer.~~

~~(d) Except for the collection allowance pursuant to s. 212.12 and estimated tax filing requirements pursuant to s. 212.11, the same duties and privileges imposed by chapter 212 upon dealers of tangible personal property respecting the remission of the surcharge, the making of returns, penalties and interest, the keeping of books, records and accounts, and the compliance with the rules of the Department of Revenue in the administration of chapter 212 shall apply and be binding upon all wholesale dealers who are subject to the surcharge imposed by this subsection.~~

~~(e) The Department of Revenue shall keep records showing the amount of the surcharge collected.~~

~~(f) The Department of Revenue shall collect the surcharge for transfer into the General Inspection Trust Fund of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.~~

~~(g) The Department of Revenue is empowered to promulgate rules, establish audit procedures for the audit of wholesale dealers, assess for delinquency, and prescribe and publish such forms as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of this subsection.~~

~~(h) Annually, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission shall~~

~~furnish the Department of Revenue with a current list of wholesale dealers in the state.~~

~~(i) Collections received by the Department of Revenue from the surcharge shall be transferred quarterly to the General Inspection Trust Fund of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, less the costs of administration.~~

~~(j) The executive director of the Department of Revenue is hereby authorized to adopt emergency rules pursuant to s. 120.54(4) for purposes of implementing this subsection. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, such emergency rules shall remain effective for 6 months from the date of adoption. Other rules of the Department of Revenue related to and in furtherance of the orderly implementation of this subsection shall not be subject to a s. 120.56(2) rule challenge or a s. 120.54(3)(e)2. drawout proceeding but, once adopted, shall be subject to a s. 120.56(3) invalidity challenge. Such rules shall be adopted by the Governor and Cabinet and shall become effective upon filing with the Department of State, notwithstanding the provisions of s. 120.54(3)(e)6.~~

~~(k)~~ The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall use or distribute funds paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the General Inspection Trust Fund pursuant to s. 201.15(11) ~~generated by this surcharge~~, less reasonable costs of ~~collection and~~ administration, to fund the following oyster management and restoration programs in Apalachicola Bay:

(a)~~1.~~ The relaying and transplanting of live oysters.

(b)~~2.~~ Shell planting to construct or rehabilitate oyster bars.

(c) ~~3.~~ Education programs for licensed oyster harvesters on oyster biology, aquaculture, boating and water safety, sanitation, resource conservation, small business management, and other relevant subjects.

(d) ~~4.~~ Research directed toward the enhancement of oyster production in the bay and the water management needs of the bay.

Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 72.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

72.011 Jurisdiction of circuit courts in specific tax matters; administrative hearings and appeals; time for commencing action; parties; deposits.--

(1)(a) A taxpayer may contest the legality of any assessment or denial of refund of tax, fee, surcharge, permit, interest, or penalty provided for under s. 125.0104, s. 125.0108, chapter 198, chapter 199, chapter 201, chapter 202, chapter 203, chapter 206, chapter 207, chapter 210, chapter 211, chapter 212, chapter 213, chapter 220, chapter 221, ~~s. 370.07(3),~~ chapter 376, s. 403.717, s. 403.718, s. 403.7185, s. 538.09, s. 538.25, chapter 550, chapter 561, chapter 562, chapter 563, chapter 564, chapter 565, chapter 624, or s. 681.117 by filing an action in circuit court; or, alternatively, the taxpayer may file a petition under the applicable provisions of chapter 120. However, once an action has been initiated under s. 120.56, s. 120.565, s. 120.569, s. 120.57, or s. 120.80(14)(b), no action relating to the same subject matter may be filed by the taxpayer in circuit court, and judicial review shall be exclusively limited to appellate review pursuant to s. 120.68; and once an action has been initiated in circuit court,

no action may be brought under chapter 120.

Section 5. Subsection (3) of section 161.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

161.091 Beach management; funding; repair and maintenance strategy.--

(3) In accordance with the intent expressed in s. 161.088 and the legislative finding that erosion of the beaches of this state is detrimental to tourism, the state's major industry, further exposes the state's highly developed coastline to severe storm damage, and threatens beach-related jobs, which, if not stopped, could significantly reduce state sales tax revenues, funds deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund, in the annual amounts provided in s. 201.15(11)(a) ~~s. 201.15(11)~~, shall be used, for a period of not less than 15 years, to fund the development, implementation, and administration of the state's beach management plan, as provided in ss. 161.091-161.212, prior to the use of such funds deposited pursuant to s. 201.15(11)(a) ~~s. 201.15(11)~~ in that trust fund for any other purpose.

Section 6. Section 213.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

213.05 Department of Revenue; control and administration of revenue laws.--The Department of Revenue shall have only those responsibilities for ad valorem taxation specified to the department in chapter 192, taxation, general provisions; chapter 193, assessments; chapter 194, administrative and judicial review of property taxes; chapter 195, property assessment administration and finance; chapter 196, exemption; chapter 197,

tax collections, sales, and liens; chapter 199, intangible personal property taxes; and chapter 200, determination of millage. The Department of Revenue shall have the responsibility of regulating, controlling, and administering all revenue laws and performing all duties as provided in s. 125.0104, the Local Option Tourist Development Act; s. 125.0108, tourist impact tax; chapter 198, estate taxes; chapter 201, excise tax on documents; chapter 202, communications services tax; chapter 203, gross receipts taxes; chapter 206, motor and other fuel taxes; chapter 211, tax on production of oil and gas and severance of solid minerals; chapter 212, tax on sales, use, and other transactions; chapter 220, income tax code; chapter 221, emergency excise tax; ss. 336.021 and 336.025, taxes on motor fuel and special fuel; ~~s. 370.07(3), Apalachicola Bay oyster surcharge;~~ s. 376.11, pollutant spill prevention and control; s. 403.718, waste tire fees; s. 403.7185, lead-acid battery fees; s. 538.09, registration of secondhand dealers; s. 538.25, registration of secondary metals recyclers; s. 624.4621, group self-insurer's fund premium tax; s. 624.5091, retaliatory tax; s. 624.475, commercial self-insurance fund premium tax; ss. 624.509-624.511, insurance code: administration and general provisions; s. 624.515, State Fire Marshal regulatory assessment; s. 627.357, medical malpractice self-insurance premium tax; s. 629.5011, reciprocal insurers premium tax; and s. 681.117, motor vehicle warranty enforcement.

Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 213.053, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

213.053 Confidentiality and information sharing.--

(1)(a) The provisions of this section apply to s. 125.0104, county government; s. 125.0108, tourist impact tax; chapter 175, municipal firefighters' pension trust funds; chapter 185, municipal police officers' retirement trust funds; chapter 198, estate taxes; chapter 199, intangible personal property taxes; chapter 201, excise tax on documents; chapter 203, gross receipts taxes; chapter 211, tax on severance and production of minerals; chapter 212, tax on sales, use, and other transactions; chapter 220, income tax code; chapter 221, emergency excise tax; s. 252.372, emergency management, preparedness, and assistance surcharge; ~~s. 370.07(3), Apalachicola Bay oyster surcharge;~~ chapter 376, pollutant spill prevention and control; s. 403.718, waste tire fees; s. 403.7185, lead-acid battery fees; s. 538.09, registration of secondhand dealers; s. 538.25, registration of secondary metals recyclers; ss. 624.501 and 624.509-624.515, insurance code; s. 681.117, motor vehicle warranty enforcement; and s. 896.102, reports of financial transactions in trade or business.

Section 8. On the effective date of this act, the Department of Revenue shall cease all efforts to collect any uncollected revenues due or payable pursuant to the 50-cent-per-bag surcharge that is abolished by this act.

Section 9. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

HOUSE AMENDMENT FOR COUNCIL/COMMITTEE PURPOSES

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

Bill No. **1249**

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED	__ (Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	__ (Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	__ (Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	__ (Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	__ (Y/N)
OTHER	_____

Council/Committee hearing bill: Environmental Regulation Committee

Representative Kendrick offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection (2), and subsection (11) of section 201.15, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

201.15 Distribution of taxes collected.--All taxes collected under this chapter shall be distributed as follows and shall be subject to the service charge imposed in s. 215.20(1), except that such service charge shall not be levied against any portion of taxes pledged to debt service on bonds to the extent that the amount of the service charge is required to pay any amounts relating to the bonds:

(1) Sixty-two and sixty-three hundredths percent of the remaining taxes collected under this chapter shall be used for the following purposes:

(e) The remainder of the moneys distributed under this subsection, after the required payments under paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d), shall be paid into the State Treasury to the

credit of the General Revenue Fund of the state to be used and expended for the purposes for which the General Revenue Fund was created and exists by law or to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund, ~~or to~~ the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund, or the General Inspection Trust Fund as provided in subsection (11).

(2) Seven and fifty-six hundredths percent of the remaining taxes collected under this chapter shall be used for the following purposes:

(a) Beginning in the month following the final payment for a fiscal year under paragraph (1)(c), available moneys shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the General Revenue Fund of the state to be used and expended for the purposes for which the General Revenue Fund was created and exists by law or to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund, ~~or to~~ the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund, or the General Inspection Trust Fund as provided in subsection (11). Payments made under this paragraph shall continue until the cumulative amount credited to the General Revenue Fund for the fiscal year under this paragraph equals the cumulative payments made under paragraph (1)(c) for the same fiscal year.

(11)(a) From the moneys specified in paragraphs (1)(e) ~~(1)(d)~~ and (2)(a) and prior to deposit of any moneys into the General Revenue Fund, $30 million shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund in fiscal year 2000-2001 and each fiscal year thereafter, to be used for the preservation and repair of the state's beaches as provided in ss. 161.091-161.212, and $2 million shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund to be used for marine mammal care as provided in s. 370.0603(3).

(b) After the payments required in paragraph (a), $300,000 shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the General Inspection Trust Fund in fiscal year 2006-2007 and each fiscal year thereafter, to be used to fund oyster management and restoration programs as provided in s. 370.07(3).

Section 2. Effective July 1, 2007, paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section 201.15, Florida Statutes, as amended by section 26 of chapter 2005-290, Laws of Florida, and subsections (2), (11), and (13) of section 201.15, Florida Statutes, as amended by section 1 of chapter 2005-92, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:

201.15 Distribution of taxes collected.--All taxes collected under this chapter shall be distributed as follows and shall be subject to the service charge imposed in s. 215.20(1), except that such service charge shall not be levied against any portion of taxes pledged to debt service on bonds to the extent that the amount of the service charge is required to pay any amounts relating to the bonds:

(1) Sixty-two and sixty-three hundredths percent of the remaining taxes collected under this chapter shall be used for the following purposes:

(e) The remainder of the moneys distributed under this subsection, after the required payments under paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the General Revenue Fund to be used and expended for the purposes for which the General Revenue Fund was created and exists by law or to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund, ~~or to~~ the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund, or the General Inspection Trust Fund as provided in subsection (11).

(2) The lesser of seven and fifty-six hundredths percent of the remaining taxes collected under this chapter or $85.1 ~~$84.9~~ million in each fiscal year shall be used for the following purposes:

(a) Beginning in the month following the final payment for a fiscal year under paragraph (1)(c), available moneys shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the General Revenue Fund to be used and expended for the purposes for which the General Revenue Fund was created and exists by law or to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund, ~~or to~~ the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund, or the General Inspection Trust Fund as provided in subsection (11). Payments made under this paragraph shall continue until the cumulative amount credited to the General Revenue Fund for the fiscal year under this paragraph equals the cumulative payments made under paragraph (1)(c) for the same fiscal year.

(b) The remainder of the moneys distributed under this subsection shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Land Acquisition Trust Fund. Sums deposited in the fund pursuant to this subsection may be used for any purpose for which funds deposited in the Land Acquisition Trust Fund may lawfully be used.

(11)(a) From the moneys specified in paragraphs (1)(e) ~~(1)(d)~~ and (2)(a) and prior to deposit of any moneys into the General Revenue Fund, $30 million shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund in fiscal year 2000-2001 and each fiscal year thereafter, to be used for the preservation and repair of the state's beaches as provided in ss. 161.091-161.212, and $2 million shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of

the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund to be used for marine mammal care as provided in s. 370.0603(3).

(b) After the payments required in paragraph (a), $300,000 shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the General Inspection Trust Fund in fiscal year 2006-2007 and each fiscal year thereafter, to be used to fund oyster management and restoration programs as provided in s. 370.07(3).

(13) The distribution of proceeds deposited into the Water Management Lands Trust Fund and the Conservation and Recreation Lands Trust Fund, pursuant to subsections (4) and (5), shall not be used for land acquisition, but may be used for preacquisition costs associated with land purchases. The Legislature intends that the Florida Forever program supplant the acquisition programs formerly authorized under ss. 259.032 and 373.59. ~~Prior to the 2005 Regular Session of the Legislature, the Acquisition and Restoration Council shall review and make recommendations to the Legislature concerning the need to repeal this provision. Based on these recommendations, the Legislature shall review the need to repeal this provision during the 2005 Regular Session.~~

Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 370.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

370.07 Wholesale and retail saltwater products dealers; regulation.--

(3) OYSTER MANAGEMENT AND RESTORATION PROGRAMS ~~APALACHICOLA BAY OYSTER SURCHARGE~~.--

~~(a) For purposes of this section, "bag" means an amount of oysters with shells weighing approximately 60 pounds.~~

~~(b) Effective October 1, 1989, there shall be assessed a surcharge of 50 cents on each bag of oysters to be paid by the wholesale dealer first receiving, using, or selling the oysters after harvesting from the waters of Apalachicola Bay.~~

~~(c)1. Each wholesale dealer shall certify, on such forms as may be prescribed by the Department of Revenue, to any subsequent purchasing wholesale dealer or other purchaser that the surcharge imposed by this subsection has been paid or will be paid by such wholesale dealer first receiving the oysters.~~

~~2. In the case where the harvester is also the wholesale dealer, such wholesale dealer shall maintain documentation, on forms as may be prescribed by the Department of Revenue, adequate to establish that the surcharge has been paid or will be paid by such wholesale dealer.~~

~~3. In such case where the wholesale dealer is also the retail dealer under paragraph (1)(b), such wholesale dealer shall maintain documentation, on forms as may be prescribed by the Department of Revenue, adequate to establish that the surcharge has been paid or will be paid by such wholesale dealer.~~

~~(d) Except for the collection allowance pursuant to s. 212.12 and estimated tax filing requirements pursuant to s. 212.11, the same duties and privileges imposed by chapter 212 upon dealers of tangible personal property respecting the remission of the surcharge, the making of returns, penalties and interest, the keeping of books, records and accounts, and the compliance with the rules of the Department of Revenue in the administration of chapter 212 shall apply and be binding upon all wholesale dealers who are subject to the surcharge imposed by this subsection.~~

~~(e) The Department of Revenue shall keep records showing the amount of the surcharge collected.~~

~~(f) The Department of Revenue shall collect the surcharge for transfer into the General Inspection Trust Fund of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.~~

~~(g) The Department of Revenue is empowered to promulgate rules, establish audit procedures for the audit of wholesale dealers, assess for delinquency, and prescribe and publish such forms as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of this subsection.~~

~~(h) Annually, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission shall furnish the Department of Revenue with a current list of wholesale dealers in the state.~~

~~(i) Collections received by the Department of Revenue from the surcharge shall be transferred quarterly to the General Inspection Trust Fund of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, less the costs of administration.~~

~~(j) The executive director of the Department of Revenue is hereby authorized to adopt emergency rules pursuant to s. 120.54(4) for purposes of implementing this subsection. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, such emergency rules shall remain effective for 6 months from the date of adoption. Other rules of the Department of Revenue related to and in furtherance of the orderly implementation of this subsection shall not be subject to a s. 120.56(2) rule challenge or a s. 120.54(3)(c)2. drawout proceeding but, once adopted, shall be subject to a s. 120.56(3) invalidity challenge. Such rules shall be adopted by the Governor and Cabinet and shall become effective upon filing with the Department of State, notwithstanding the provisions of s. 120.54(3)(c)6.~~

~~(k)~~ The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall use or distribute funds paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the General Inspection Trust Fund pursuant to s. 201.15(11) ~~generated by this surcharge~~, less reasonable costs of ~~collection and~~ administration, to fund the following oyster

management and restoration programs in Apalachicola Bay and other oyster harvest areas in the state:

(a) ~~1.~~ The relaying and transplanting of live oysters.

(b) ~~2.~~ Shell planting to construct or rehabilitate oyster bars.

(c) ~~3.~~ Education programs for licensed oyster harvesters on oyster biology, aquaculture, boating and water safety, sanitation, resource conservation, small business management, and other relevant subjects.

(d) ~~4.~~ Research directed toward the enhancement of oyster production in the bay and the water management needs of the bay.

Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 161.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

161.091 Beach management; funding; repair and maintenance strategy.--

(3) In accordance with the intent expressed in s. 161.088 and the legislative finding that erosion of the beaches of this state is detrimental to tourism, the state's major industry, further exposes the state's highly developed coastline to severe storm damage, and threatens beach-related jobs, which, if not stopped, could significantly reduce state sales tax revenues, funds deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund, in the annual amounts provided in s. 201.15(11)(a) ~~s. 201.15(11)~~, shall be used, for a period of not less than 15 years, to fund the development, implementation, and administration of the state's beach management plan, as provided in ss. 161.091-161.212, prior to the use of such funds deposited pursuant to s. 201.15(11)(a) ~~s. 201.15(11)~~ in that trust fund for any other purpose.

Section 5. Section 213.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

213.05 Department of Revenue; control and administration of revenue laws.--The Department of Revenue shall have only those responsibilities for ad valorem taxation specified to the department in chapter 192, taxation, general provisions; chapter 193, assessments; chapter 194, administrative and judicial review of property taxes; chapter 195, property assessment administration and finance; chapter 196, exemption; chapter 197, tax collections, sales, and liens; chapter 199, intangible personal property taxes; and chapter 200, determination of millage. The Department of Revenue shall have the responsibility of regulating, controlling, and administering all revenue laws and performing all duties as provided in s. 125.0104, the Local Option Tourist Development Act; s. 125.0108, tourist impact tax; chapter 198, estate taxes; chapter 201, excise tax on documents; chapter 202, communications services tax; chapter 203, gross receipts taxes; chapter 206, motor and other fuel taxes; chapter 211, tax on production of oil and gas and severance of solid minerals; chapter 212, tax on sales, use, and other transactions; chapter 220, income tax code; chapter 221, emergency excise tax; ss. 336.021 and 336.025, taxes on motor fuel and special fuel; ~~s. 370.07(3), Apalachicola Bay oyster surcharge;~~ s. 376.11, pollutant spill prevention and control; s. 403.718, waste tire fees; s. 403.7185, lead-acid battery fees; s. 538.09, registration of secondhand dealers; s. 538.25, registration of secondary metals recyclers; s. 624.4621, group self-insurer's fund premium tax; s. 624.5091, retaliatory tax; s. 624.475, commercial self-insurance fund premium tax; ss. 624.509-624.511, insurance code: administration and general provisions; s. 624.515, State Fire Marshal regulatory assessment; s. 627.357, medical malpractice self-insurance

premium tax; s. 629.5011, reciprocal insurers premium tax; and s. 681.117, motor vehicle warranty enforcement.

Section 6. On the effective date of this act, the Department of Revenue shall cease all efforts to collect any uncollected revenues due or payable pursuant to the 50-cent-per-bag surcharge that is abolished by this act.

Section 7. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

========== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ==========

Remove the entire title and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to funding for oyster management and restoration programs in Apalachicola Bay and other areas; amending s. 201.15, F.S.; increasing the distribution of certain revenues from the excise tax on documents; authorizing the distribution of such revenues to the General Inspection Trust Fund of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; providing for such funds to be used for oyster management and restoration programs in Apalachicola Bay and other areas; amending s. 370.07, F.S.; abolishing a surcharge upon oysters harvested from Apalachicola Bay; deleting certain requirements related to the surcharge; providing for the use of moneys from the General Inspection Trust Fund for oyster management and restoration programs in Apalachicola Bay and other areas; prohibiting the Department of Revenue from collecting uncollected moneys payable from the surcharge; amending ss. 161.091 and 213.05, F.S., to conform; providing effective dates.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: PCB ENVR 06-04 Dept. of Interior Constitutional Amendment
SPONSOR(S): Environmental Regulation Committee
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
Orig. Comm.: Environmental Regulation Committee		Kliner	Kliner
1)			
2)			
3)			
4)			
5)			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

This bill would authorize a proposed constitutional amendment for consideration by voters in the 2006 General Election to create a Department of the Interior, to be headed by an elected Cabinet officer who shall have supervision of matters pertaining to the state's natural resources, including fish and wildlife. If approved:

- Effective July 1, 2009 the constitutional mandate establishing the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and its duties would be removed.
- Effective on that date, the Department of the Interior shall be established, to be headed by an elected Cabinet officer who shall have supervision of matters pertaining to fish and wildlife, natural resources, and the scenic beauty of the state.
- The office of commissioner of the interior shall take effect January 6, 2009.
- The office would be initially filled for a 2-year term at the 2008 general election, with 4-year terms following thereafter.

The Department shall be responsible, as provided by law, for conserving and protecting the natural resources and scenic beauty of the state in accordance with Article II, section 7(a) of the State Constitution, including fish and wildlife.

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

Limited Government: The proposed constitutional amendment does not appear to implicate any of the House Principles; however, if the constitutional amendment passes the Legislature will be charged to establish an agency to oversee issues relating to fish and wildlife, natural resources, and the scenic beauty of the state. Depending on how the Legislature structures the agency, this measure may decrease public employment by possibly eliminating duplicative services or combining certain disciplines relating to natural resource conservation and management.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Present Situation

Currently, two governmental entities exercise primary supervision over matters pertaining to Florida's natural resources. [1]

- The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is an executive agency overseen by a governor-appointed Secretary. The DEP is primarily responsible for managing and regulating activities that impact Florida's land, air and water quality.
- The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) is a constitutionally-created body managed by a Commission of seven members that are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate to five-year terms. The FWC is responsible for managing and regulating activities that impact Florida's marine and freshwater animals and terrestrial wildlife.

Both agencies perform functions relating to land management, construction permitting, pollution control, and law enforcement. In addition, both FWC and DEP have land acquisition programs and each develops recreational trails.

Short History of Conservation in Florida

Between 1845 and 1889 the enforcement responsibility for fishing and conservation fell to each of the individual counties, towns or municipalities. The Florida Fish Commission was established in 1889, and Fish Wardens were appointed by state commissioners to enforce Florida fish laws. Between 1905 and 1913 enforcement was returned to the individual counties. During that time, Fish and Game Wardens were authorized for appointment for each county, enforced ordinances relating to fish, oyster and game, and were compensated by the county government.

The Shell Fish Commission supervised the fishing industry beginning in 1913 and established the first seafood enforcement office in Florida, placed under the Agriculture Commissioner. The enforcement arm of the Commission started with 4 patrol boats and 14 sworn officers, one from each of the major fishing centers in Florida at that time.

In 1933 the Florida Board of Conservation (FBC) combined and replaced the Shellfish Commission, the Game and Freshwater Fish Department, and the State Geological Survey. Two years later the Game and Freshwater Fish Department was removed from the FBC. At that time the FBC was comprised of the Governor, the State Supervisor of Conservation, the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the State Comptroller, the State Treasurer, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Commissioner of Agriculture.

[1] The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, which is administered by an elected Cabinet officer oversees the state's agricultural resources.

In 1952 Florida Governor Fuller Warren proposed a new Department of the Interior made up of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and the State Board Conservation. In 1953, newly elected Governor Daniel McCarty decided to merge the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission with the State Board of Conservation to form a Department of Interior headed by a an elected cabinet official.[2] This was a continuation of the work Governor McCarty's predecessor Governor Fuller Warren started in 1952, when the members of the Legislature felt that the Commission was "superior" to the Senate and House because its regulations had the power of law with legislative approval or the governor's signature.[3] However, the work that Governor Warren had started and Governor McCarty was continuing never came to pass due to Governor McCarty's death less than nine months after taking office prevented implementation of this plan.[4]

In July, 1969 the FBC became Department of Natural Resources (DNR), which consisted of six Divisions: Administrative Services, Recreation and Parks, Interior Resources, Environmental Research and Protection, Marine Resources, and the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. The Game and Freshwater Fish Commission was excised as separate agency Sept 1969 by court order.

Department of Environmental Regulation (DER) was created in 1975. While DNR primarily concentrated on issues relating to the acquisition and management of state lands (submerged lands and uplands), DER had the regulatory authority to control the discharge of pollutants to the environment and the destruction of wetlands by dredging and filling.

In 1992 the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) was established from the merger of the Departments of Natural Resources and Environmental Regulation.

On November 3, 1998, Revision 5 to the Florida Constitution amended Article IV, Section 9 and created Article XII, Section 23 (1998 Revision) for the purpose of creating the FWC. The move consolidated the regulation of wild animal life, freshwater aquatic life, and marine life in one agency. In doing so, the Game Commission and Marine Commission were abolished and the jurisdiction of both entities was transferred to the FWC.

Prior to 1999, regulation of Florida's wild animal life, freshwater aquatic life, and marine life was performed primarily by three governmental entities:

1) The Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission (Game Commission), a constitutional entity with exclusive regulatory and executive authority over wild animal life and freshwater aquatic life.
2) The Marine Fisheries Commission (Marine Commission), a statutory entity placed within the DEP with limited jurisdiction over the management of marine life.
3) The DEP, a statutory agency with authority over some aspects of marine life and full authority over marine law enforcement.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

This bill would authorize a proposed constitutional amendment for consideration by voters in the 2006 General Election to create a Department of Interior, to be headed by an elected Cabinet officer who shall have supervision of matters pertaining to the state's natural resources. Upon voter approval it would leave the regulation of natural resources to be determined by the Legislature. The constitutional amendment language would read as follows:

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
ARTICLE IV, SECTIONS 4 AND 9;
ARTICLE XII, SECTIONS 23 AND 26

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[2] Florida Game and Freshwater Commission. *Florida Wildlife, V. 47 Number 6 50th Anniversary Edition.* Tallahassee, FL: Florida Game and Freshwater Commission, Nov-Dec. 1993. p. 28
[3] Ibid. p. 22
[4] Ibid. p. 28

DIRECTOR OF THE INTERIOR, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR CREATED; FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION ABOLISHED. Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to create the Cabinet office of Director of the Interior for the supervision of matters pertaining to the state's natural resources, create a Department of the Interior to be responsible to the extent provided by law for conserving and protecting the natural resources and scenic beauty of the state, and abolish the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; to provide an effective date of July 1, 2009, for the creation of the department and the abolishment of the commission; and to provide an effective date of January 6, 2009, for the creation of the Cabinet office of Director of the Interior, with the office to be filled at the 2008 general election to an initial term of 2 years, with subsequent 4-year terms.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

   None.

2. Expenditures:

   None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

   None.

2. Expenditures:

   None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

This joint resolution proposes a constitutional amendment which, if approved by the voters, would create an agency with certain responsibilities to be established by general law. As such, the fiscal impact of the creation of the judicial conference is indeterminate at this time.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

   Not applicable because this bill does not appear to: require the counties or cities to spend funds or take an action requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that cities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with cities or counties.

2. Other:

This is a legislative joint resolution, which is one of the methods for proposing, approving or rejecting amendments to the Florida Constitution.[5] The joint resolution requires passage by a three-fifths vote of the membership of each house of the Legislature. The proposed constitutional amendment must be submitted to the electors at the next general election held more than 90 days after the joint resolution is filed with the custodian of state records. If approved by a majority of the electors voting on the question, the proposed amendment becomes effective on the Tuesday after the first Monday in January following the election or on such other date as may be specified in the amendment.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

In the United States, 26 States have chosen to place the state's game and fish regulation and environmental regulation within a subdivision of an "umbrella" agency:

Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas (Cabinet level agency), Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin, and West Virginia.

There are 20 states where game and fish regulation are within a stand alone agency:

Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Tennessee, Virginia, Vermont, Washington, and Wyoming.

Four states have game and fish agencies that are constitutionally created:

Arkansas, California, Florida, and Oklahoma.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES

[5] See Art. XI, Fla. Const. (providing for amendment by legislative joint resolution, constitution revision commission proposal, citizen initiative, and constitutional budget or tax commission proposal).

House Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing the amendment of Section 11 of Article III, Sections 4 and 9 of Article IV, and Section 23 of Article XII and the creation of Section 26 of Article XII of the State Constitution to create the Cabinet office of Commissioner of the Interior, create a Department of the Interior, and remove the constitutional mandate for a Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the following amendment of Section 11 of Article III, Sections 4 and 9 of Article IV, and Section 23 of Article XII and the creation of Section 26 of Article XII of the State Constitution are agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE III

LEGISLATURE

SECTION 11. Prohibited special laws.--

(a) There shall be no special law or general law of local application pertaining to:

(1) election, jurisdiction or duties of officers, except officers of municipalities, chartered counties, special districts or local governmental agencies;

(2) assessment or collection of taxes for state or county purposes, including extension of time therefor, relief of tax

officers from due performance of their duties, and relief of their sureties from liability;

(3) rules of evidence in any court;

(4) punishment for crime;

(5) petit juries, including compensation of jurors, except establishment of jury commissions;

(6) change of civil or criminal venue;

(7) conditions precedent to bringing any civil or criminal proceedings, or limitations of time therefor;

(8) refund of money legally paid or remission of fines, penalties or forfeitures;

(9) creation, enforcement, extension or impairment of liens based on private contracts, or fixing of interest rates on private contracts;

(10) disposal of public property, including any interest therein, for private purposes;

(11) vacation of roads;

(12) private incorporation or grant of privilege to a private corporation;

(13) effectuation of invalid deeds, wills or other instruments, or change in the law of descent;

(14) change of name of any person;

(15) divorce;

(16) legitimation or adoption of persons;

(17) relief of minors from legal disabilities;

(18) transfer of any property interest of persons under legal disabilities or of estates of decedents;

(19) hunting or ~~fresh water~~ fishing;

(20) regulation of occupations which are regulated by a state agency; or

(21) any subject when prohibited by general law passed by a three-fifths vote of the membership of each house. Such law may be amended or repealed by like vote.

(b) In the enactment of general laws on other subjects, political subdivisions or other governmental entities may be classified only on a basis reasonably related to the subject of the law.

ARTICLE IV

EXECUTIVE

SECTION 4. Cabinet.--

(a) There shall be a cabinet composed of an attorney general, a chief financial officer, a commissioner of the interior, and a commissioner of agriculture. In addition to the powers and duties specified herein, they shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as may be prescribed by law. In the event of a tie vote of the governor and cabinet, the side on which the governor voted shall be deemed to prevail.

(b) The attorney general shall be the chief state legal officer. There is created in the office of the attorney general the position of statewide prosecutor. The statewide prosecutor shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the state attorneys to prosecute violations of criminal laws occurring or having occurred, in two or more judicial circuits as part of a related transaction, or when any such offense is affecting or has affected two or more judicial circuits as provided by general law. The statewide prosecutor shall be appointed by the attorney general from not less than three persons nominated by the

judicial nominating commission for the supreme court, or as otherwise provided by general law.

(c) The chief financial officer shall serve as the chief fiscal officer of the state, and shall settle and approve accounts against the state, and shall keep all state funds and securities.

(d) The commissioner of agriculture shall have supervision of matters pertaining to agriculture except as otherwise provided by law.

(e) The commissioner of the interior shall have supervision of matters pertaining to the state's natural resources and scenic beauty, including fish and wildlife, except as otherwise provided by law.

(f) ~~(e)~~ The governor as chair, the chief financial officer, and the attorney general shall constitute the state board of administration, which shall succeed to all the power, control, and authority of the state board of administration established pursuant to Article IX, Section 16 of the Constitution of 1885, and which shall continue as a body at least for the life of Article XII, Section 9(c).

(g) ~~(f)~~ The governor as chair, the chief financial officer, the attorney general, the commissioner of the interior, and the commissioner of agriculture shall constitute the trustees of the internal improvement trust fund and the land acquisition trust fund as provided by law.

(h) ~~(g)~~ The governor as chair, the chief financial officer, the attorney general, the commissioner of the interior, and the commissioner of agriculture shall constitute the agency head of the Department of Law Enforcement.

SECTION 9. Department of the Interior ~~Fish and wildlife conservation commission~~.--There shall be a Department of the Interior to be responsible for conserving and protecting the state's natural resources and scenic beauty, including fish and wildlife, except as otherwise provided by law ~~fish and wildlife conservation commission, composed of seven members appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by the senate for staggered terms of five years. The commission shall exercise the regulatory and executive powers of the state with respect to wild animal life and fresh water aquatic life, and shall also exercise regulatory and executive powers of the state with respect to marine life, except that all license fees for taking wild animal life, fresh water aquatic life, and marine life and penalties for violating regulations of the commission shall be prescribed by general law. The commission shall establish procedures to ensure adequate due process in the exercise of its regulatory and executive functions. The legislature may enact laws in aid of the commission, not inconsistent with this section, except that there shall be no special law or general law of local application pertaining to hunting or fishing. The commission's exercise of executive powers in the area of planning, budgeting, personnel management, and purchasing shall be as provided by law. Revenue derived from license fees for the taking of wild animal life and fresh water aquatic life shall be appropriated to the commission by the legislature for the purposes of management, protection, and conservation of wild animal life and fresh water aquatic life. Revenue derived from license fees relating to marine life shall be appropriated by the legislature for the purposes of management, protection, and conservation of marine life as~~

~~provided by law. The commission shall not be a unit of any other state agency and shall have its own staff, which includes management, research, and enforcement. Unless provided by general law, the commission shall have no authority to regulate matters relating to air and water pollution.~~

ARTICLE XII

SCHEDULE

SECTION 23. Department of the Interior ~~Fish and wildlife conservation commission.--~~

~~(a) The initial members of the commission shall be the members of the game and fresh water fish commission and the marine fisheries commission who are serving on those commissions on the effective date of this amendment, who may serve the remainder of their respective terms. New appointments to the commission shall not be made until the retirement, resignation, removal, or expiration of the terms of the initial members results in fewer than seven members remaining.~~

~~(b) The jurisdiction of the marine fisheries commission as set forth in statutes in effect on March 1, 1998, shall be transferred to the fish and wildlife conservation commission. The jurisdiction of the marine fisheries commission transferred to the commission shall not be expanded except as provided by general law. All rules of the marine fisheries commission and game and fresh water fish commission in effect on the effective date of this amendment shall become rules of the fish and wildlife conservation commission until superseded or amended by the commission.~~

~~(c)~~ The creation of the Department of the Interior pursuant to the amendment to Section 9 of Article IV shall take effect

July 1, 2009, and on that ~~the effective~~ date ~~of this amendment~~, the constitutional mandate for a fish and wildlife conservation ~~marine fisheries commission and game and fresh water fish~~ commission shall be removed ~~abolished~~.

~~(d) This amendment shall take effect July 1, 1999.~~

SECTION 26. Commissioner of the Interior.--The amendment to Section 4 of Article IV to create the Cabinet office of commissioner of the interior shall take effect January 6, 2009, with the office to be initially filled for a 2-year term at the 2008 general election.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

ARTICLE III, SECTION 11

ARTICLE IV, SECTIONS 4 AND 9

ARTICLE XII, SECTIONS 23 AND 26

CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND SCENIC BEAUTY, INCLUDING FISH AND WILDLIFE.--Proposing amendment of the State Constitution to create a Department of the Interior to be responsible for conserving and protecting the state's natural resources and scenic beauty, including fish and wildlife, except as otherwise provided by law; to create the office of Commissioner of the Interior, a Cabinet office filled by statewide election, to have supervision of matters pertaining to the state's natural resources and scenic beauty, including fish and wildlife, except as otherwise provided by law, and to serve with the Governor and other Cabinet officers as the State Board of Administration, as Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund and the Land Acquisition Trust Fund, and as the agency head of the Department of Law Enforcement; to remove the constitutional mandate for a Fish and Wildlife Conservation

Commission charged with overseeing matters relating to fish and wildlife; to preserve the prohibition against any special law or general law of local application relating to hunting or fishing; and to provide an effective date of July 1, 2009, for the creation of the Department of the Interior and an effective date of January 6, 2009, for the creation of the Cabinet office of Commissioner of the Interior, with the office to be filled at the 2008 general election to an initial term of 2 years, with subsequent 4-year terms.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: PCB ENVR 06-02 Brownfields
SPONSOR(S): Environmental Regulation Committee
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
Orig. Comm.: Environmental Regulation Committee		Kliner	Kliner
1)			
2)			
3)			
4)			
5)			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

This bill amends various provisions of the Florida Brownfield Redevelopment Act.

Specifically, the bill:

- Increases the amount of credit, from 35 percent to 50 percent, that may be applied against intangible personal property tax and corporate income tax for the voluntary cleanup costs of a contaminated brownfield or dry-cleaning site, and increases the amount of tax credit that may be granted to a tax credit applicant per year from $250,000 to $500,000;
- Increases the percentage and amount of tax credit that may be received by the taxpayer in the final year of the cleanup as an incentive to complete the cleanup. The percentage is increased from 10 percent to 25 percent and the amount is increased from $50,000 to $500,000;
- Expands the Voluntary Cleanup Tax Credit program to provide incentives for cleaning unlicensed, or promiscuous solid waste dumpsites;
- Requires Enterprise Florida, Inc., to aggressively market brownfields;
- Increases the amount of the brownfields loan guarantee from 10 to 25 percent; and,
- Repeals the Brownfield Property Ownership Clearance Assistance Program and the Brownfield Property Ownership Clearance Assistance Revolving Loan Trust Fund;

Fiscal Impact: The state may experience an indeterminate loss of tax revenues associated with the increased caps and the 15% increase in tax credits for amounts it otherwise would have collected for intangible personal tax and corporate income tax.

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

Provide Limited Government: The bill increases tax credit provisions which will create additional incentives for voluntary cleanup of eligible contaminated sites. Increased participation in the state's Brownfields Redevelopment Program and the voluntary cleanup of eligible drycleaning sites will reduce trust fund expenditures, accelerate cleanup and redevelopment of these contaminated sites and have a positive impact on local communities as these properties begin to create new tax revenue.

Ensure Lower Taxes: The bill provides an increase for the percentage of costs of voluntary cleanup activity from 35 percent to 50 percent when obtaining a tax credit against intangible personal property tax or corporate income tax. The bill increases the percentage and amount of tax credit that may be received by the taxpayer in the final year of the cleanup as an incentive to complete the cleanup. The percentage is increased from 10 percent to 25 percent and the amount is increased from $50,000 to $500,000.

Safeguard Individual Liberty and Promote Personal Responsibility: The bill provides an increase for the percentage of costs of voluntary cleanup activity from 35 percent to 50 percent when obtaining a tax credit against intangible personal property tax or corporate income tax and increases the dollar cap on the 10 percent completion incentive tax credit from $50,000 to $500,000. These provisions may result in increased participation in the Florida Brownfields Redevelopment Program and voluntary cleanup of drycleaning solvent contaminated sites.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Current Situation

In 1995, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) initiated a program to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and reuse brownfields. Florida followed suit in 1997 and enacted the Brownfields Redevelopment Act to provide incentives for the private sector to redevelop abandoned or underused real property, the development of which was complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination.

The federal brownfields program was significantly expanded on January 11, 2002, when President Bush signed into law the Small Business Relief and Liability and Brownfields Revitalization Act, also known as the "Brownfields Amendments." The main purpose of this new law was to create incentives for the redevelopment of brownfield properties and Superfund sites and provide grants to assess or cleanup a brownfields property.

The Florida Brownfield Redevelopment Act, consisting of ss. 376.77-376.85, F.S., provides legislative intent, a brownfield area designation process, environmental cleanup criteria, program eligibility and liability protections, and economic and financial incentives. Furthermore, s. 376.86, F.S., provides for a Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Program, and ss. 376.87 and 376.875, F.S., provide for brownfield property ownership clearance assistance and the creation of the Brownfield Property Ownership Clearance Assistance Revolving Loan Trust Fund.

Legislative intent

As provided in s. 376.78, F.S., the Legislature declared that the reduction of public health and environmental hazards on existing commercial and industrial sites is vital to their use and reuse as sources of employment.

Designation and administration—Designation of a brownfield area must come from the local government through the passage of a local resolution. Once a brownfield area has been designated, the local government must notify the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and attach a map or a detailed legal description of the brownfield area. The designation of a brownfield area may be initiated in one of two ways:

- By a local government to encourage redevelopment of an area of specific interest to the community; or
- By an individual with a redevelopment plan in mind.

In determining the area to be designated, the local government must consider:

- Whether the brownfield area warrants economic development and has a reasonable potential for such activities;
- Whether the proposed area to be designated represents a reasonable focused approach and is not overly large in geographic coverage;
- Whether the area has potential to interest the private sector in participating in rehabilitation; and
- Whether the area contains sites or parts of sites suitable for limited recreational open space, cultural, or historical preservation purposes. See, Section 376.80(2), F.S.

A local government shall designate a brownfield area if:

- The person who owns or controls a potential brownfield site is requesting the designation and has agreed to rehabilitate the site;
- The redevelopment and rehabilitation of the proposed brownfield site will result in economic productivity of the area and will create at least 10 new permanent jobs at the brownfield site;[1]
- The redevelopment of the proposed brownfield site is consistent with the local comprehensive plan and is a permittable use under the applicable local land development regulations;
- Notice has been provided to neighbors and nearby residents of the proposed area to be designated; and
- The person proposing the area for designation has provided reasonable assurance that there are sufficient financial resources to implement and complete the rehabilitation agreement and redevelopment plan.

The designation of a brownfield area and the identification of a person responsible for brownfield site rehabilitation simply entitle the identified person to negotiate a brownfield site rehabilitation agreement with the DEP or an approved local program. The person responsible for rehabilitation must enter into a brownfield site rehabilitation agreement with the DEP or an approved local program to be eligible for certain benefits associated with the brownfields redevelopment program. As of February 1, 2006, there were 125 designated brownfield areas in Florida. According to information reported by the Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development to the DEP in January 2006, the cumulative totals for new job creation and capital investment attributable to the Brownfields Redevelopment program from inception of the program until December 31, 2005 are: 6,656 new direct jobs, 5,935 new indirect jobs, and $546,913,933 of capital investment in designated brownfields areas.

Cleanup criteria

Risk-based corrective-action principles apply, to the maximum extent feasible, to the cleanup activities on a brownfield site within a designated brownfield area. These principles are designed to achieve protection of human health and safety and the environment in a cost-effective manner by taking into account natural attenuation, individual site characteristics, and the use of engineering and institutional controls.

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1 As specified in s. 376.80(2)(b), F.S., the 10 new permanent jobs may be full- or part-time and cannot be associated with the rehabilitation agreement or redevelopment project demolition or construction activities.

Eligibility and liability protection

A person who has not caused or contributed to the contamination of a brownfield site on or after July 1, 1997, is eligible to participate in the brownfield program. Certain specified sites are not eligible for the program. Those sites include brownfield sites that are subject to an ongoing formal judicial or administrative enforcement action or corrective action pursuant to federal authority, or sites that have obtained or are required to obtain a hazardous waste operation, storage, or disposal facility permit, unless specifically exempted by a memorandum of agreement with the EPA.

After July 1, 1997, petroleum and drycleaning contamination sites in a brownfield area cannot receive both funding assistance for the cleanup of the discharge that is available under the underground storage tank cleanup program or the drycleaning cleanup program and any state assistance available under s. 288.107, F.S., relating to brownfield redevelopment bonus refunds.

If a state or local government has acquired a contaminated site within a brownfield area, it is not liable for implementing site rehabilitation corrective actions, unless the state or local government has caused or contributed to a release of contaminants at the brownfield site. Also, nonprofit conservation organizations, acting for the public interest, which purchase contaminated sites and which did not contribute to the release of contamination on the site also warrant protection from liability.

Lenders are afforded certain liability protections to encourage financing of real property in brownfield areas. Essentially, the same liability protections apply to lenders if they have not caused or contributed to a release of a contaminant at the brownfield site.

Economic and financial incentives

Since the Brownfields Redevelopment Act was envisioned to emphasize economic redevelopment, local governments were expected to play a significant role in the process. As a result, state and local governments are encouraged to offer redevelopment incentives which may include financial, regulatory, and technical assistance. Other economic and financial incentives available to brownfield sites are tax refunds for qualified target industries located in a brownfield area, brownfield redevelopment bonus refunds, and partial voluntary cleanup tax credits.

The tax refunds available may be for corporate income taxes, insurance premium taxes, sales and use taxes, intangible personal property taxes, emergency excise taxes, documentary stamp taxes, and ad valorem taxes.

The brownfield redevelopment bonus refunds of $2,500 are available to any qualified target industry business for each new Florida job created in a brownfield area which is claimed on the qualified target industry's annual refund claim. Section 288.107, F.S., provides the minimum criteria for participation in the brownfield redevelopment bonus refund program.

Voluntary cleanup tax credit

One of the financial incentives that is getting increased attention as the brownfield program matures and gains in popularity is the voluntary cleanup tax credit or VCTC. This is a tax credit available for site rehabilitation conducted at eligible drycleaning sites and brownfield sites in designated brownfield areas. To be eligible, the responsible party must execute a Brownfield Site Rehabilitation Agreement with the DEP.

The VCTC can apply toward either the intangible personal property tax or the corporate income tax. The amount of the credit is 35 percent of the costs of the voluntary cleanup activity that is integral to site rehabilitation. The maximum amount for a tax credit applicant is $250,000 per year. If the credit is not fully used in any one year because of insufficient tax liability on the part of the tax credit applicant, the unused amount may be carried forward for a period not to exceed 5 years. However, the total

amount of the tax credit that may be granted each year under the program is $2 million. To date, however, the total amount of applications for the tax credits has not reached the $2 million cap in any one year. DEP reports that from creation of the tax credit program in 1998 through FY 02-03, the total value of tax credits issued annually has nearly doubled each year. A total of $3,867,638 in tax credits have been issued since its inception in 1998. Of the total amount of tax credits issued, $3,098,752 (80 percent) has been issued for brownfield sites and $768,886 (20 percent) has been issued for drycleaning solvent cleanup sites. Table A below, illustrates the fiscal year history associated with the voluntary tax credit program administered by DEP:

Table A

Fiscal Year	# Voluntary Cleanup Tax Credit Certificates Issued	Total $ Issued
FY 1998-1999	1	$30,228.13
FY 1999-2000	3	$118,438.25
FY 2000-2001	6	$213,851.71
FY 2001-2002	9	$494,193.72
FY 2002-2003	13	$1,068,049.29
FY 2003-2004	16	$1,014,834.47
FY 2004-2005	10	$928,042.19
FY 2005-2006	9	$1,010,086.10

As an inducement to complete the voluntary cleanup, the tax credit applicant may claim an additional 10 per cent of the total cleanup costs, not to exceed $50,000 in the final year of cleanup. The tax credits may be transferred once to another entity in whole or in units of not less than 25 percent of the remaining credit.

According to industry representatives and the DEP, there are brownfield sites that are impacted by solid waste; however, due to a lack of "contamination" as defined by statute and rule the DEP lacks authorization to award tax credits associated with the solid waste cleanup.

Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Program

The Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Program was created in 1998. A Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Council was created to review, approve, or deny certain partnership agreements with local governments, financial institutions, and others associated with the redevelopment of brownfields for limited guarantees of loans or loss reserves. A loan guarantee may only be for a period of not more than 5 years.

The limited state loan guarantee applies to 10 percent of the primary lender's loans for redevelopment projects in brownfields areas. The loan guarantee holds until permanent financing is acquired or until the project is sold. Section 376.86, F.S., provides that no more than $5 million of the balance of the Inland Protection Trust Fund in any fiscal year may be at risk at any time on loan guarantees or as loan loss reserves. To date, the loan guarantee provisions have been used only one time. That project involved a shopping center and an out-parcel in a Clearwater brownfield area. The loan guarantee mechanism worked as it was designed to do. With the loan guarantee, the developer has more financial flexibility because the initial cash flow is not as great.

Brownfield Property Ownership Clearance Assistance and Revolving Loans Trust Fund

Section 376.87, F.S., provides for brownfield property ownership clearance assistance. The Legislature recognized that some brownfield redevelopment projects are more difficult to redevelop due to the existence of various types of liens on the property and complications from previous ownership having declared bankruptcy. The Brownfield Property Ownership Clearance Assistance Revolving Loan Trust Fund was created to assist in the early stages of redeveloping brownfields by helping to clear prior liens on the property through a negotiated process. The loans would be repaid in later years from the resale

of the brownfield properties following site rehabilitation and other activities that will enhance the property's ultimate value. This trust fund has never been capitalized and used for its intended purposes.

Enterprise Florida, Inc.:

Enterprise Florida, Inc. (EFI) is the public-private partnership responsible for leading Florida's statewide economic development efforts. EFI was formed in July 1996, when Florida became the first state in the nation to replace its Commerce Department with a public-private organization that is responsible for economic development, international trade and statewide business marketing. EFI's mission is to diversify Florida's economy and create better-paying jobs for its citizens by supporting, attracting and helping to create businesses in innovative, high-growth industries. [2] Currently, brownfields are not included in the types of communities that EFI is required to aggressively assist in economic development and jog growth.

Effect of Proposed Changes

- Increases the amount of credit, from 35 percent to 50 percent, that may be applied against intangible personal property tax and corporate income tax for the voluntary cleanup costs of a contaminated brownfield or dry-cleaning site, and increases the amount of tax credit that may be granted to a tax credit applicant per year from $250,000 to $500,000;
- Increases the percentage and amount of tax credit that may be received by the taxpayer in the final year of the cleanup as an incentive to complete the cleanup. The percentage is increased from 10 percent to 25 percent and the amount is increased from $50,000 to $500,000;
- Expands the Voluntary Cleanup Tax Credit program to provide incentives for cleaning unlicensed, or historic solid waste dumpsites;
- Requires Enterprise Florida, Inc., to aggressively market brownfields;
- Increases the amount of the brownfields loan guarantee from 10 to 25 percent; and,
- Repeals the Brownfield Property Ownership Clearance Assistance Program and the Brownfield Property Ownership Clearance Assistance Revolving Loan Trust Fund;

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Sections 1, 2, and 3. Sections 199.1055, 220.1845, and 376.30781, F.S., are amended to increase the tax credit that is available against either the intangible personal property tax or the corporate income tax for costs incurred for voluntary cleanup activity integral to site rehabilitation from 35 percent to 50 percent. Also, the amount of tax credit that may be granted to a tax credit applicant per year is increased from $250,000 to $500,000.

To encourage completion of site rehabilitation at contaminated sites being voluntarily cleaned up, current law allows the applicant to claim an additional 10 percent of the total cleanup costs in the final year of cleanup up to $50,000. These sections are amended to increase the percentage to 25 percent and the maximum amount from $50,000 to $500,000. The total amount of the tax credit that may be granted annually is increased from $2 million to $5 million.

Section 4. Part VII of ch. 288, F.S., creates Enterprise Florida, Inc., as the principle economic development organization for the state. It is Enterprise Florida, Inc.'s responsibility to aggressively market Florida's rural communities, distressed urban communities, and enterprise zones as locations for potential new investment, to aggressively assist these communities in the identification and development of new economic opportunities for job creation, and to fully market state incentive programs such as the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program and the Quick Action Closing Fund in economically distressed areas. This section amends s. 288.9015, F.S., to require Enterprise Florida, Inc., to aggressively market brownfields as locations for potential new investment.

2 http://www.eflorida.com/aboutus/default.asp?tn=3

Section 5. This section amends s. 376.86, F.S., to increase the amount of the Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee from 10 percent to 25 percent.

Section 6. This section repeals ss. 376.87 and 376.875, F.S., which relate to the brownfield property ownership clearance assistance program and the Brownfield Property Ownership Clearance Assistance Revolving Loan Trust Fund. This program has never been capitalized and used for its intended purposes.

Section 7. This section provides an effective date of July 1, 2006

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

   The state may experience a loss of tax revenues associated with the increased caps and the 15% increase in tax credits for amounts it otherwise would have collected for intangible personal tax and corporate income tax.

2. Expenditures:

   a. Non-recurring Effects:

      The bill will require DEP to amend an existing rule detailing the tax credit application process. There will be indeterminate fiscal impacts associated with the cost of rulemaking related to publishing rule drafts and conducting public workshops for rule development.

   b. Recurring Effects: None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

   Unknown. Local governments may benefit from the satisfaction of tax liens and the replacement of properties onto local tax rolls as redevelopment occurs on brownfield areas.

2. Expenditures:

   a. Non-recurring Effects:

      Local governments should not have significant incidental costs associated with implementation of the amendments to the brownfields program.

   b. Recurring Effects:

      Local governments may benefit from the cleanup of brownfield sites and drycleaning solvent contaminated sites and may see an increased demand for passage of resolutions designating brownfield areas.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

The bill increases the amount of credit, from 35 percent to 50 percent, that may be applied against intangible personal property tax and corporate income tax for the voluntary cleanup costs of a contaminated brownfield or dry-cleaning site, and increases the completion incentive cap from 10 percent to 25 percent. The amount of tax credit that may be granted to a tax credit applicant per year is

increased from $250,000 to $500,000. These changes may result in increased participation in the Florida Brownfields Redevelopment Program and in voluntary cleanup of drycleaning solvent contaminated sites. Direct benefits may include employment opportunities for environmental cleanup contractors, future job opportunities for area residents, opportunity for developers to realize profits on property investments, the possibility of an increase in surrounding property value, and a reduction or elimination of risk to public health and the environment resulting from cleaning up contamination in the area.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable because this bill does not appear to: require cities or counties to spend funds or take actions requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that cities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with cities or counties.

2. Other:

None

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

The bill will require DEP to amend an existing rule detailing the tax credit application process.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES

None

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the redevelopment of brownfields; amending ss. 199.1055, 220.1845, and 376.30781, F.S.; increasing the amount and percentage of the credit that may be applied against the intangible personal property tax and the corporate income tax for the cost of voluntary cleanup of a contaminated site; increasing the amount that may be received by the taxpayer as an incentive to complete the cleanup in the final year; increasing the total amount of credits that may be granted in any year; providing tax credits for voluntary cleanup activities related to solid waste disposal facilities; providing criteria for eligible sites and activities; directing the Department of Environmental Protection to apply certain criteria, requirements, and limitations for implementation of such provisions; providing certain exceptions; amending s. 288.9015, F.S.; requiring Enterprise Florida, Inc., to aggressively market brownfields; amending s. 376.86, F.S.; increasing the percentage of loans for redevelopment projects in brownfield areas to which the state loan guarantee applies under the Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Program; repealing s. 376.87, F.S., relating to the Brownfield Property Ownership Clearance Assistance; repealing s. 376.875, F.S., relating to the Brownfield Property Ownership Clearance Assistance Revolving Loan Trust Fund; amending s. 14.2015, F.S.; deleting a reference to the trust fund to conform; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 199.1055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

199.1055 Contaminated site rehabilitation tax credit.--

(1) AUTHORIZATION FOR TAX CREDIT; LIMITATIONS.--

(a) A credit in the amount of 50 ~~35~~ percent of the costs of voluntary cleanup activity that is integral to site rehabilitation at the following sites is available against any tax due for a taxable year under s. 199.032, less any credit allowed by former s. 220.68 for that year:

1. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site eligible for state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3);

2. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site at which cleanup is undertaken by the real property owner pursuant to s. 376.3078(11), if the real property owner is not also, and has never been, the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility where the contamination exists; or

3. A brownfield site in a designated brownfield area under s. 376.80.

(b) A tax credit applicant, or multiple tax credit applicants working jointly to clean up a single site, may not be granted more than $500,000 ~~$250,000~~ per year in tax credits for each site voluntarily rehabilitated. Multiple tax credit applicants shall be granted tax credits in the same proportion as their contribution to payment of cleanup costs. Subject to the same conditions and limitations as provided in this section, a municipality, county, or other tax credit applicant which voluntarily rehabilitates a site may receive not more than

$500,000 ~~$250,000~~ per year in tax credits which it can subsequently transfer subject to the provisions in paragraph (g).

(c) If the credit granted under this section is not fully used in any one year because of insufficient tax liability on the part of the tax credit applicant, the unused amount may be carried forward for a period not to exceed 5 years. Five years after the date a credit is granted under this section, such credit expires and may not be used. However, if during the 5-year period the credit is transferred, in whole or in part, pursuant to paragraph (g), each transferee has 5 years after the date of transfer to use its credit.

(d) A taxpayer that receives a credit under s. 220.1845 is ineligible to receive credit under this section in a given tax year.

(e) A tax credit applicant that receives state-funded site rehabilitation pursuant to s. 376.3078(3) for rehabilitation of a drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site is ineligible to receive credit under this section for costs incurred by the tax credit applicant in conjunction with the rehabilitation of that site during the same time period that state-administered site rehabilitation was underway.

(f) The total amount of the tax credits which may be granted under this section and s. 220.1845 is $5 ~~$2~~ million annually.

(g)1. Tax credits that may be available under this section to an entity eligible under s. 376.30781 may be transferred after a merger or acquisition to the surviving or acquiring entity and used in the same manner with the same limitations.

2. The entity or its surviving or acquiring entity as described in subparagraph 1., may transfer any unused credit in whole or in units of no less than 25 percent of the remaining credit. The entity acquiring such credit may use it in the same manner and with the same limitation as described in this section. Such transferred credits may not be transferred again although they may succeed to a surviving or acquiring entity subject to the same conditions and limitations as described in this section.

3. In the event the credit provided for under this section is reduced either as a result of a determination by the Department of Environmental Protection or an examination or audit by the Department of Revenue, such tax deficiency shall be recovered from the first entity, or the surviving or acquiring entity, to have claimed such credit up to the amount of credit taken. Any subsequent deficiencies shall be assessed against any entity acquiring and claiming such credit, or in the case of multiple succeeding entities in the order of credit succession.

(h) In order to encourage completion of site rehabilitation at contaminated sites being voluntarily cleaned up and eligible for a tax credit under this section, the tax credit applicant may claim an additional <u>25</u> ~~10~~ percent of the total cleanup costs, not to exceed <u>$500,000</u> ~~$50,000~~, in the final year of cleanup as evidenced by the Department of Environmental Protection issuing a "No Further Action" order for that site.

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 220.1845, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

220.1845 Contaminated site rehabilitation tax credit.--

(1) AUTHORIZATION FOR TAX CREDIT; LIMITATIONS.--

(a) A credit in the amount of 50 ~~35~~ percent of the costs of voluntary cleanup activity that is integral to site rehabilitation at the following sites is available against any tax due for a taxable year under this chapter:

1. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site eligible for state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3);

2. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site at which cleanup is undertaken by the real property owner pursuant to s. 376.3078(11), if the real property owner is not also, and has never been, the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility where the contamination exists; or

3. A brownfield site in a designated brownfield area under s. 376.80.

(b) A tax credit applicant, or multiple tax credit applicants working jointly to clean up a single site, may not be granted more than $500,000 ~~$250,000~~ per year in tax credits for each site voluntarily rehabilitated. Multiple tax credit applicants shall be granted tax credits in the same proportion as their contribution to payment of cleanup costs. Subject to the same conditions and limitations as provided in this section, a municipality, county, or other tax credit applicant which voluntarily rehabilitates a site may receive not more than $500,000 ~~$250,000~~ per year in tax credits which it can subsequently transfer subject to the provisions in paragraph (h).

(c) If the credit granted under this section is not fully used in any one year because of insufficient tax liability on the part of the corporation, the unused amount may be carried forward for a period not to exceed 5 years. The carryover credit may be used in a subsequent year when the tax imposed by this chapter

for that year exceeds the credit for which the corporation is eligible in that year under this section after applying the other credits and unused carryovers in the order provided by s. 220.02(8). Five years after the date a credit is granted under this section, such credit expires and may not be used. However, if during the 5-year period the credit is transferred, in whole or in part, pursuant to paragraph (h), each transferee has 5 years after the date of transfer to use its credit.

(d) A taxpayer that files a consolidated return in this state as a member of an affiliated group under s. 220.131(1) may be allowed the credit on a consolidated return basis up to the amount of tax imposed upon the consolidated group.

(e) A taxpayer that receives credit under s. 199.1055 is ineligible to receive credit under this section in a given tax year.

(f) A tax credit applicant that receives state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3) for rehabilitation of a drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site is ineligible to receive credit under this section for costs incurred by the tax credit applicant in conjunction with the rehabilitation of that site during the same time period that state-administered site rehabilitation was underway.

(g) The total amount of the tax credits which may be granted under this section and s. 199.1055 is $5 ~~$2~~ million annually.

(h)1. Tax credits that may be available under this section to an entity eligible under s. 376.30781 may be transferred after a merger or acquisition to the surviving or acquiring entity and used in the same manner and with the same limitations.

2. The entity or its surviving or acquiring entity as described in subparagraph 1., may transfer any unused credit in whole or in units of no less than 25 percent of the remaining credit. The entity acquiring such credit may use it in the same manner and with the same limitation as described in this section. Such transferred credits may not be transferred again although they may succeed to a surviving or acquiring entity subject to the same conditions and limitations as described in this section.

3. In the event the credit provided for under this section is reduced either as a result of a determination by the Department of Environmental Protection or an examination or audit by the Department of Revenue, such tax deficiency shall be recovered from the first entity, or the surviving or acquiring entity, to have claimed such credit up to the amount of credit taken. Any subsequent deficiencies shall be assessed against any entity acquiring and claiming such credit, or in the case of multiple succeeding entities in the order of credit succession.

(i) In order to encourage completion of site rehabilitation at contaminated sites being voluntarily cleaned up and eligible for a tax credit under this section, the tax credit applicant may claim an additional <u>25</u> ~~10~~ percent of the total cleanup costs, not to exceed <u>$500,000</u> ~~$50,000~~, in the final year of cleanup as evidenced by the Department of Environmental Protection issuing a "No Further Action" order for that site.

Section 3. Section 376.30781, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

376.30781 Partial tax credits for rehabilitation of drycleaning-solvent-contaminated sites and brownfield sites in

designated brownfield areas; application process; rulemaking authority; revocation authority.--

(1) The Legislature finds that:

(a) To facilitate property transactions and economic growth and development, it is in the interest of the state to encourage the cleanup, at the earliest possible time, of drycleaning-solvent-contaminated sites and brownfield sites in designated brownfield areas.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage the voluntary cleanup of drycleaning-solvent-contaminated sites and brownfield sites in designated brownfield areas by providing a partial tax credit for the restoration of such property in specified circumstances.

(2)(a) A credit in the amount of 50 ~~35~~ percent of the costs of voluntary cleanup activity that is integral to site rehabilitation at the following sites is allowed pursuant to ss. 199.1055 and 220.1845:

1. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site eligible for state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3);

2. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site at which cleanup is undertaken by the real property owner pursuant to s. 376.3078(11), if the real property owner is not also, and has never been, the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility where the contamination exists; or

3. A brownfield site in a designated brownfield area under s. 376.80.

(b) A tax credit applicant, or multiple tax credit applicants working jointly to clean up a single site, may not be granted more than $500,000 ~~$250,000~~ per year in tax credits for

each site voluntarily rehabilitated. Multiple tax credit applicants shall be granted tax credits in the same proportion as their contribution to payment of cleanup costs. Tax credits are available only for site rehabilitation conducted during the calendar year for which the tax credit application is submitted.

(c) In order to encourage completion of site rehabilitation at contaminated sites that are being voluntarily cleaned up and that are eligible for a tax credit under this section, the tax credit applicant may claim an additional 25 ~~10~~ percent of the total cleanup costs, not to exceed $500,000 ~~$50,000~~, in the final year of cleanup as evidenced by the Department of Environmental Protection issuing a "No Further Action" order for that site.

(3) The Department of Environmental Protection shall be responsible for allocating the tax credits provided for in ss. 199.1055 and 220.1845, not to exceed a total of $5 ~~$2~~ million in tax credits annually.

(4) To claim the credit for site rehabilitation conducted during the current calendar year, each tax credit applicant must apply to the Department of Environmental Protection for an allocation of the $5 ~~$2~~ million annual credit by January 15 of the following year on a form developed by the Department of Environmental Protection in cooperation with the Department of Revenue. The form shall include an affidavit from each tax credit applicant certifying that all information contained in the application, including all records of costs incurred and claimed in the tax credit application, are true and correct. If the application is submitted pursuant to subparagraph (2)(a)2., the form must include an affidavit signed by the real property owner stating that it is not, and has never been, the owner or operator

of the drycleaning facility where the contamination exists. Approval of partial tax credits must be accomplished on a first-come, first-served basis based upon the date complete applications are received by the Division of Waste Management. A tax credit applicant shall submit only one complete application per site for each calendar year's site rehabilitation costs. Incomplete placeholder applications shall not be accepted and will not secure a place in the first-come, first-served application line. To be eligible for a tax credit, the tax credit applicant must:

(a) Have entered into a voluntary cleanup agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection for a drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site or a Brownfield Site Rehabilitation Agreement, as applicable; and

(b) Have paid all deductibles pursuant to s. 376.3078(3)(e) for eligible drycleaning-solvent-cleanup program sites.

(5) To obtain the tax credit certificate, a tax credit applicant must annually file an application for certification, which must be received by the Division of Waste Management of the Department of Environmental Protection by January 15 of the year following the calendar year for which site rehabilitation costs are being claimed in a tax credit application. The tax credit applicant must provide all pertinent information requested on the tax credit application form, including, at a minimum, the name and address of the tax credit applicant and the address and tracking identification number of the eligible site. Along with the tax credit application form, the tax credit applicant must submit the following:

(a) A nonrefundable review fee of $250 made payable to the Water Quality Assurance Trust Fund to cover the administrative costs associated with the department's review of the tax credit application;

(b) Copies of contracts and documentation of contract negotiations, accounts, invoices, sales tickets, or other payment records from purchases, sales, leases, or other transactions involving actual costs incurred for that tax year related to site rehabilitation, as that term is defined in ss. 376.301 and 376.79;

(c) Proof that the documentation submitted pursuant to paragraph (b) has been reviewed and verified by an independent certified public accountant in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Specifically, the certified public accountant must attest to the accuracy and validity of the costs incurred and paid by conducting an independent review of the data presented by the tax credit applicant. Accuracy and validity of costs incurred and paid would be determined once the level of effort was certified by an appropriate professional registered in this state in each contributing technical discipline. The certified public accountant's report would also attest that the costs included in the application form are not duplicated within the application. A copy of the accountant's report shall be submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection with the tax credit application; and

(d) A certification form stating that site rehabilitation activities associated with the documentation submitted pursuant to paragraph (b) have been conducted under the observation of,

and related technical documents have been signed and sealed by, an appropriate professional registered in this state in each contributing technical discipline. The certification form shall be signed and sealed by the appropriate registered professionals stating that the costs incurred were integral, necessary, and required for site rehabilitation, as that term is defined in ss. 376.301 and 376.79.

(6) The certified public accountant and appropriate registered professionals submitting forms as part of a tax credit application must verify such forms. Verification must be accomplished as provided in s. 92.525(1)(b) and subject to the provisions of s. 92.525(3).

(7) The Department of Environmental Protection shall review the tax credit application and any supplemental documentation that the tax credit applicant may submit prior to the annual application deadline in order to have the application considered complete, for the purpose of verifying that the tax credit applicant has met the qualifying criteria in subsections (2) and (4) and has submitted all required documentation listed in subsection (5). Upon verification that the tax credit applicant has met these requirements, the department shall issue a written decision granting eligibility for partial tax credits (a tax credit certificate) in the amount of 50 ~~35~~ percent of the total costs claimed, subject to the $500,000 ~~$250,000~~ limitation, for the calendar year for which the tax credit application is submitted based on the report of the certified public accountant and the certifications from the appropriate registered technical professionals.

(8) On or before March 1, the Department of Environmental Protection shall inform each eligible tax credit applicant of the amount of its partial tax credit and provide each eligible tax credit applicant with a tax credit certificate that must be submitted with its tax return to the Department of Revenue to claim the tax credit or be transferred pursuant to s. 199.1055(1)(g) or s. 220.1845(1)(h). Credits will not result in the payment of refunds if total credits exceed the amount of tax owed.

(9) If a tax credit applicant does not receive a tax credit allocation due to an exhaustion of the $5 ~~$2~~ million annual tax credit authorization, such application will then be included in the same first-come, first-served order in the next year's annual tax credit allocation, if any, based on the prior year application.

(10) The Department of Environmental Protection may adopt rules to prescribe the necessary forms required to claim tax credits under this section and to provide the administrative guidelines and procedures required to administer this section.

(11) The Department of Environmental Protection may revoke or modify any written decision granting eligibility for partial tax credits under this section if it is discovered that the tax credit applicant submitted any false statement, representation, or certification in any application, record, report, plan, or other document filed in an attempt to receive partial tax credits under this section. The Department of Environmental Protection shall immediately notify the Department of Revenue of any revoked or modified orders affecting previously granted partial tax

credits. Additionally, the tax credit applicant must notify the Department of Revenue of any change in its tax credit claimed.

(12) A tax credit applicant who receives state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3) for rehabilitation of a drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site is ineligible to receive a tax credit under s. 199.1055 or s. 220.1845 for costs incurred by the tax credit applicant in conjunction with the rehabilitation of that site during the same time period that state-administered site rehabilitation was underway.

(13) At eligible sites listed in paragraph (2)(a), in addition to any tax credits that may be claimed for site rehabilitation as defined in s. 376.301, a tax credit applicant may also claim tax credits pursuant to the requirements of this section for voluntary cleanup activity that addresses a solid waste disposal facility, subject to the following criteria:

(a) For purposes of this subsection, "solid waste" and "solid waste disposal facility" have the same meanings as defined in s. 403.703, but shall not include sites that merely have litter or debris scattered on the surface of the land;

(b) The solid waste disposal facility must have ceased operation prior to 1988 and must not have been or must not currently be subject to any department solid waste permit;

(c) Tax credits may be claimed for one or more of the following activities:

1. Removing all solid waste from the solid waste disposal facility and disposing of it in a permitted solid waste management facility;

2. Closing the solid waste disposal facility, which may include partial removal and disposal of solid waste in a

permitted solid waste management facility, in accordance with the requirements of chapter 62-701, Florida Administrative Code, including grading the facility to achieve appropriate side slopes, installing final cover, controlling stormwater, and providing gas management, if necessary;

3. Performing long-term care for the solid waste disposal facility in accordance with the requirements of chapter 62-701, Florida Administrative Code, after the facility has been properly closed; and

4. Performing groundwater evaluation and assessment after removal of all solid waste or after the solid waste disposal facility has been properly closed;

(d) If the solid waste disposal facility is closed as described in subparagraph (c)2., the redevelopment of the property containing the solid waste disposal facility shall be limited to commercial or industrial land use only and shall be subject to appropriate engineering and institutional controls, and tax credits shall be awarded only after a restrictive covenant limiting future uses of the property has been reviewed and approved by the department and properly recorded;

(e) Costs for crushing or compacting the solid waste in place solely to make it suitable for future development shall not be eligible for tax credits pursuant to this section; and

(f) Any activity conducted in accordance with this subsection shall not be considered site rehabilitation.

(14) In implementing subsection (13), the department shall use the same criteria, requirements, and limitations detailed in subsections (1)-(12) of this section and ss. 199.1055 and 220.1845, with the following exceptions:

(a) Where reference is made to "site rehabilitation," the department shall consider whether the costs claimed are for voluntary cleanup activity that addresses a solid waste disposal facility as outlined in subsection (13);

(b) In lieu of the certification requirements of paragraph (5)(d), a tax credit applicant seeking a tax credit pursuant to subsection (13) shall include in the tax credit application:

1. A certification that the applicant has determined, after consultation with local government officials and the department, that the solid waste disposal facility ceased operating prior to January 1, 1974, and is not or has never been subject to a solid waste permit;

2. A certification signed and sealed by an appropriate registered professional and previously approved by the department that the solid waste disposal facility has been properly closed pursuant to chapter 62-701, Florida Administrative Code, or that all solid waste was removed and properly disposed of; and

3. A certification signed and sealed by an appropriate registered professional that costs incurred and claimed in the tax credit application were integral, necessary, and required to conduct those activities listed in paragraph (13)(c), as applicable;

(c) Tax credit applications in which costs are claimed pursuant to subparagraphs (13)(c)1. and 2. shall not be subject to the calendar-year limitation and January 15 annual application deadline, but the department shall accept a one-time application filed after the tax credit applicant has completed all requirements listed in subsection (13) and this subsection;

(d) Notwithstanding the tax credit percentage established in subsections (2) and (7) and ss. 199.1055 and 220.1845, the tax credit for activities conducted pursuant to subparagraphs (13)(c)2.-4. relating to closure of a solid waste disposal facility shall be limited to 25 percent;

(e) The additional percentage allowed by paragraph (2)(c) and ss. 199.1055(1)(h) and 220.1845(1)(i) is not applicable to tax credits claimed pursuant to subsection (13); and

(f) The department shall have 60 days after the date of receipt of any application claiming tax credits pursuant to subsection (13) to process the application and grant or deny the claimed tax credits.

Section 4. Subsection (2) of section 288.9015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.9015 Enterprise Florida, Inc.; purpose; duties.--

(2) It shall be the responsibility of Enterprise Florida, Inc., to aggressively market Florida's rural communities, distressed urban communities, brownfields, and enterprise zones as locations for potential new investment, to aggressively assist in the retention and expansion of existing businesses in these communities, and to aggressively assist these communities in the identification and development of new economic development opportunities for job creation, fully marketing state incentive programs such as the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program under s. 288.106 and the Quick Action Closing Fund under s. 288.1088 in economically distressed areas.

Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 376.86, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

376.86 Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Program.--

(1) The Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Council is created to review and approve or deny by a majority vote of its membership, the situations and circumstances for participation in partnerships by agreements with local governments, financial institutions, and others associated with the redevelopment of brownfield areas pursuant to the Brownfields Redevelopment Act for a limited state guaranty of up to 5 years of loan guarantees or loan loss reserves issued pursuant to law. The limited state loan guaranty applies only to 25 ~~10~~ percent of the primary lenders loans for redevelopment projects in brownfield areas. A limited state guaranty of private loans or a loan loss reserve is authorized for lenders licensed to operate in the state upon a determination by the council that such an arrangement would be in the public interest and the likelihood of the success of the loan is great.

Section 6. Sections 376.87 and 376.875, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

Section 7. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 14.2015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14.2015 Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development; creation; powers and duties.--

(2) The purpose of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development is to assist the Governor in working with the Legislature, state agencies, business leaders, and economic development professionals to formulate and implement coherent and consistent policies and strategies designed to provide economic opportunities for all Floridians. To accomplish such purposes, the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development shall:

(f)1. Administer the Florida Enterprise Zone Act under ss. 290.001-290.016, the community contribution tax credit program under ss. 220.183 and 624.5105, the tax refund program for qualified target industry businesses under s. 288.106, the tax-refund program for qualified defense contractors under s. 288.1045, contracts for transportation projects under s. 288.063, the sports franchise facility program under s. 288.1162, the professional golf hall of fame facility program under s. 288.1168, the expedited permitting process under s. 403.973, the Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund under s. 288.065, the Regional Rural Development Grants Program under s. 288.018, the Certified Capital Company Act under s. 288.99, the Florida State Rural Development Council, the Rural Economic Development Initiative, and other programs that are specifically assigned to the office by law, by the appropriations process, or by the Governor. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the office may expend interest earned from the investment of program funds deposited in the Grants and Donations Trust Fund ~~and the Brownfield Property Ownership Clearance Assistance Revolving Loan Trust Fund~~ to contract for the administration of the programs, or portions of the programs, enumerated in this paragraph or assigned to the office by law, by the appropriations process, or by the Governor. Such expenditures shall be subject to review under chapter 216.

2. The office may enter into contracts in connection with the fulfillment of its duties concerning the Florida First Business Bond Pool under chapter 159, tax incentives under chapters 212 and 220, tax incentives under the Certified Capital Company Act in chapter 288, foreign offices under chapter 288,

the Enterprise Zone program under chapter 290, the Seaport Employment Training program under chapter 311, the Florida Professional Sports Team License Plates under chapter 320, Spaceport Florida under chapter 331, Expedited Permitting under chapter 403, and in carrying out other functions that are specifically assigned to the office by law, by the appropriations process, or by the Governor.

Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: PCB ENVR 06-05 Solid Waste
SPONSOR(S): Environmental Regulation Committee
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
Orig. Comm.: Environmental Regulation Committee		Kliner	Kliner
1)			
2)			
3)			
4)			
5)			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The bill makes a number of technical amendments to correct cross-references, delete certain obsolete provisions and dates from the solid waste management statutes, and addresses other issues which have arisen since the last major rewrite of the Solid Waste Management Act (SWMA). For instance, the bill:

- Deletes obsolete definitions, and alphabetizes and consolidates remaining definitions
- Deletes obsolete language relating to Class II landfills and compost standards
- Clarifies the circumstances under which industrial byproducts are not regulated under the SWMA
- Deletes provisions relating to biomedical incinerators
- Provides for the management of storm-generated debris.

The bill also proposes numerous amendments relating to the regulation of hazardous waste, for instance:

- Extends the duration of certain solid and hazardous waste research, development, and demonstration permits
- Deletes a requirement for a separate report on hazardous waste management
- Authorizes the DEP to issue authorizations which include both permits and clean closure orders for hazardous waste facilities
- Clarifies the provisions relating to the posting of signs on certain properties contaminated by hazardous wastes
- Allows the DEP to issue orders requiring the prompt abatement of an imminent hazard caused by a hazardous substance
- Reduces the local match requirement for local governments in order to receive certain hazardous waste collection grants, and provides exceptions from the match requirement.

See Part I.B., EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES, for a complete list of changes proposed by the bill.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

Limited Government: The Department of Environmental Protection will not longer be required to submit separate reports regarding hazardous waste management and used oil. This information will be consolidated in the department's Solid Waste Management in Florida report, thereby potentially saving personnel time and publication costs.

In order to be eligible to receive a hazardous waste collection grant, local governments currently must match the entire grant amount. This bill reduces the match requirement to 25 percent of the grant amount, and allows the match to be waived under certain circumstances. This may permit more local governments to take advantage of this grant program.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Current Situation

The Solid Waste Management Act (SWMA) was enacted in 1988 to provide comprehensive programs to promote recycling and reduce the volume of materials going to landfills. The SWMA mandated waste minimization, conservation of landfill space, litter control, and recycling and required the involvement and cooperation of Florida's residents, businesses, and visitors. Several state agencies were given responsibilities under SWMA with the Department of Environmental Regulation having the lead responsibility for developing the state program, adopting all regulations and standards, permitting facilities, and managing biohazardous waste.

A major provision of the SWMA required all counties to initiate recycling programs to separate and offer for recycling a majority of aluminum cans, glass, newspaper, and plastic bottles.

As part of their recycling programs, local governments were encouraged to separate all plastics, metals, and all grades of paper for recycling prior to final disposal and were also encouraged to recycle yard trash and other mechanically treated solid waste into compost available for agricultural and other acceptable uses.

Counties were required to achieve a waste reduction goal of 30 percent by 1994. No more than one-half of the goal could be met with yard trash, white goods (primarily discarded appliances), construction and demolition (C&D) debris, and tires. The goal could be modified or reduced for any county that demonstrated it would have an adverse impact on the financial obligations of the county regarding waste to energy facilities (WTE).

To assist the counties in their recycling efforts, the SWMA established certain grant programs. The types of grants available included small county grants, recycling and education grants, waste tire grants, and litter and marine debris prevention grants.

The SWMA also provided for a waste newsprint fee, a waste tire fee, and the implementation of an advance disposal fee if certain recycling conditions were not met.

The Solid Waste Management Trust Fund (SWMTF) was created to fund solid waste management activities

In 1993, the SWMA was significantly rewritten to update and refine the act. Major features of this rewrite included:

- Creating the Recycling Markets Advisory Committee in the Department of Commerce.[1]
- Providing significant new provisions relating to the advance disposal fee and statewide litter program. Initially, the advanced disposal fee was 1 cent per container with an increase to 2 cents on January 1, 1995. The estimated proceeds of the fee ($22 million) were deposited into the SWMTF to be used to supplement recycling grants, Surface Water Improvement and Management or SWIM program, Sewage Treatment Revolving Loan, and Small Community Sewer Construction Assistance. The advance disposal fee and the waste newsprint fee provisions expired on October 1, 1995, as provided in ch. 88-130, Laws of Florida.
- Providing new requirements for permitting WTE facilities and commercial hazardous waste incinerators in the state. No commercial hazardous waste incinerator may be permitted or certified in the state without a certificate of need, issued by the Governor and Cabinet, sitting as the Statewide Multipurpose Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Board.
- Establishing the Florida Packaging Council and creating a comprehensive litter and marine debris control and prevention program.
- Providing assistance to smaller counties to aid in meeting their waste reduction and recycling responsibilities.
- Providing for the ownership of solid waste and flow control.
- Providing for the disposal of certain batteries.
- Allowing the SWMTF to be used to fund projects relating to market development for recycled materials.
- Allowing counties of less than 50,000 to be eligible for annual solid waste grants of $50,000.

Another significant revision to the SWMA occurred in 1996 when the provisions relating to construction and demolition (C&D) debris were substantially revised. These provisions included requiring the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to establish a separate category for solid waste management facilities which accept only C&D debris for disposal or recycling; and providing that the DEP may not require liners and leachate collection systems at individual facilities unless it demonstrates that the facility is reasonably expected to result in violations of ground water standards. A permit is not required for disposal of C&D debris on the property where it is generated, but such property must be covered, graded, and vegetated as necessary when disposal is complete.

For several years, approximately $30 million was appropriated annually from the SWMTF and used for water quality and restoration projects. As a result, the Legislature in 2002 provided for the permanent reallocation of the sales tax proceeds that were being deposited into the SWMTF. These funds (approximately $30 million annually) are now deposited into the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund to be used for water quality improvement and water restoration projects. The SWMTF is now funded almost exclusively from the waste disposal fees imposed on tires purchased at retail. This fee generates approximately $19 million annually and supports not only the grants program, but also the general solid waste activities of the Division of Waste Management.

Also, the counties are no longer required to annually submit to the DEP certain solid waste and recycling information. Instead, the DEP may periodically seek the information from the counties to evaluate and report on the success of meeting the solid waste reduction goal.

Counties must still implement a recyclable materials recycling program; however, the counties are no longer required to recover a majority of the minimum five. Instead, they are encouraged to recover a significant portion of at least four of the following materials: newspaper, aluminum cans, steel cans, glass, plastic bottles, cardboard, office paper, and yard trash.

[1] The Department of Commerce was abolished in 1996 pursuant to ch. 96-320, L.O.F.

The 2002 revisions to the SWMA also:

- Deleted specific language regarding the amount of C&D debris, yard trash, white goods, and tires that may be considered when determining the 30 percent waste reduction goal.
- Redefined "small county" from 75,000 to 100,000 for purposes of providing an opportunity to recycle in lieu of achieving the 30-percent goal.
- Required C&D debris to be separated from the solid waste stream in separate locations at a solid waste disposal facility or other permitted site.
- Refocused the purposes of the SWMTF toward the core solid waste management responsibilities of the DEP and created a new competitive and innovative solid waste management grant program. It also maintained funding for the mosquito control activities in Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS).
- Redistributed the funds in the SWMTF
    - Up to 40 percent for funding solid waste activities of the DEP and other state agencies.
    - Up to 4.5 percent for funding research and training programs relating to solid waste management through the Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management.
    - Up to 11 percent to DACS for mosquito control.
    - A minimum of 40 percent for funding a competitive and innovative grant program relating to recycling and reducing the volume of municipal solid waste, including waste tires requiring final disposal.

- Provided for the distribution of the available solid waste management grants funds:
    - Up to 15 percent for the competitive and innovative grant program.
    - Up to 35 percent for the consolidated grant program for small counties.
    - Up to 50 percent for the waste tire program.

- Directed DEP to use the $30 million annually transferred from the sales tax proceeds to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration TF for projects to improve water quality and restore lakes and rivers impacted by pollution. At least 20 percent of the funds available are to be used for projects that assist financially disadvantaged small local governments.

The most recent revisions to the SWMA were made in 2005 and included the following:

- Prior to the construction of a new WTE facility or the expansion of an existing WTE, the county must implement and maintain a solid waste management and recycling program designed to meet the 30 percent waste reduction goal. If a WTE is built in a county with a population of less than 100,000 that county would have to have a program designed to achieve the 30 percent waste reduction goal, and not just provide the opportunity to recycle.
- Local government applicants for a permit to construct or expand a Class I landfill are encouraged to consider the construction of a WTE facility as an alternative to additional landfill space.
- Clarified that local governmental entities are required to pay the waste tire fee and the lead-acid battery fee.
- Increased the penalty for a litter violation from $50 to $100. The $50 increase is to be deposited into the SWMTF to be used for the solid waste management grant program.
- Provided for a pilot project to encourage the reuse or recycling of campaign signs. The recovered campaign signs are to be made available to schools and other entities that may have a use for them, at no cost.

The last time the Solid Waste Management Act was substantially rewritten was in 1993. Although there have been several amendments to the statutory provisions since that time, these amendments have been piecemeal and the issues have not been addressed in a comprehensive manner. In the past few years, issues have arisen regarding recycling and disposal of vegetative and construction and

demolition debris. This problem has been exacerbated by the fact that Florida was hit with four major hurricanes in 2004 and by Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, and Wilma in 2005.

The solid waste provisions in the statutes contain several provisions that need to updated to delete obsolete provisions and dates that have expired. Some provisions have never been used and certain provisions are no longer needed.

The Senate Environmental Preservation Committee was assigned an interim project to review the Solid Waste Management Act and make recommendations to the Legislature to update the act and make recommendations to address issues that have recently arisen.

Effect of Proposed Changes

This bill would implement the recommendations of the Senate Environmental Preservation Committee's interim report no. 2006-121, Review of the Solid Waste Management Act. The bill makes a number of technical amendments to correct cross-references, delete certain obsolete provisions and dates from the solid waste management statutes, and address other issues which have arisen since the last major rewrite of the Solid Waste Management Act. Specifically, the bill:

- Deletes the provisions relating to Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc., and transfers the Wildflower Advisory Council that was created within Keep Florida Beautiful to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS). Provides that the use fees from the sale of the Wildflower license, and transfers the unexpended proceeds from the Wildflower license plates which are held by Keep Florida Beautiful to the DACS.
- Places the Adopt-a-Shore Program that was created within Keep Florida Beautiful in the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).
- Alphabetizes the definitions used in the Solid Waste Management Act. Deletes obsolete definitions and consolidates definitions that are found elsewhere in the act.
- Deletes obsolete language relating to Class II landfills and compost standards.
- Clarifies the circumstances under which industrial byproducts are not regulated under the Solid Waste Management Act.
- Deletes provisions relating to biomedical incinerators.
- Provides for the management of storm-generated debris.
- Deletes the specific percentage allocations for the use of the funds in the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund.
- Places time restrictions on certain liens imposed by the DEP.
- Provides that escrow accounts may only be used by government-owned solid waste facilities to meet the financial requirements for closure. Provides for grandfathering of certain facilities.
- Deletes the provisions relating to the training of operators for waste-to-energy facilities, biomedical waste incinerators, and mobile soil thermal treatment units or facilities.
- Revises the definition of "waste tire" and "waste tire processing facility."
- Exempts certain tire businesses from having to obtain a tire storage permit.
- Extends the duration of certain solid and hazardous waste research, development, and demonstration permits.
- Deletes a requirement for a separate report on hazardous waste management.
- Authorizes the DEP to issue authorizations which include both permits and clean closure orders for hazardous waste facilities.
- Clarifies the provisions relating to the posting of signs on certain properties contaminated by hazardous wastes.
- Allows the DEP to issue orders requiring the prompt abatement of an imminent hazard caused by a hazardous substance.
- Reduces the local match requirement for local governments in order to receive certain hazardous waste collection grants, and provides exceptions from the match requirement.
- Repeals a provision relating to the submission of certain solid waste facility construction and operation plans.
- Repeals the requirement for a separate used oil report.

- Repeals the provisions relating to the Multipurpose Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Act.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

This bill would implement the recommendations of the Senate Environmental Preservation Committee's interim report no. 2006-121, Review of the Solid Waste Management Act. The bill makes a number of technical amendments to correct cross-references, delete certain obsolete provisions and dates from the solid waste management statutes, and address other issues which have arisen since the last major rewrite of the Solid Waste Management Act.

Section 1. Section 403.413, F.S., is amended to clarify who is liable for dumping under the litter law.

Section 2. Section 403.4131, F.S., is amended to delete the statutory provisions relating to Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc. The Wildflower Advisory Council that was created within Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc. is recreated within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS). The Council membership is increased from nine members to ten members to include a representative of the DACS. The Council will be advisory to the DACS and shall develop procedures of operation, research contracts, educational and marketing programs, and wildflower planting grants for Florida native wildflowers, plants, and grasses. The Council shall also make recommendations to the DACS concerning what constitutes acceptable species of wildflowers and other plants supported by these programs.

Section 3. Section 403.41315, F.S., is amended to conform to the changes in s. 403.4135, F.S., relating to Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc.

Section 4. Section 403.4133, F.S., is amended to place the Adopt-a-Shore Program that was created within Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc. in the Department of Environmental Protection.

Section 5. Section 320.08058, F.S., is amended to provide that the annual use fees from the sale of the Wildflower license plates shall now be distributed to the DACS.

Section 6. All unexpended proceeds of the fees paid for the Wildflower license plates which are held by Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc. must be transferred to the DACS promptly after the effective date of this act.

Section 7. Section 403.703, F.S., is amended to place the definitions used in the Solid Waste Management Act in alphabetical order. In addition, the following definitions are also amended: "clean debris", "closure", and "yard trash." The following definitions are deleted: "biomedical waste generator" and "palletized paper waste"; and the definition of "landfill" is moved from s. 403.7125, F.S.

Section 8. Section 403.704, F.S., is amended to delete certain obsolete language and dates relating to the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) powers and duties. Such provisions include:

- Holding public hearings to develop rules to implement the state's solid waste management program. This is obsolete because rulemaking provisions of s. 120.54, F.S., include workshops and hearings.
- Charging certain fees for certain solid waste management services. The DEP does not provide solid waste management services.
- Acquiring personal or real property for the purpose of providing sites for solid waste management facilities. The DEP does not provide sites for solid waste management facilities.
- Receiving funds from the sale of certain products, materials, fuel, or energy from any state-owned or operated solid waste facility. The DEP does not operate solid waste management facilities.
- Deleting certain requirements for Class II landfills. There are no longer Class II landfills being permitted in Florida.

- Conducting solid waste research to be used in the implementation of certain landfill closure rules. Landfill closure methods have been developed and the rules have been in place for nearly 20 years.
- Authorizing variances from the solid waste closure rules. Variances are already allowed under s. 403.201, F.S., and s. 120.54, F.S., for any solid waste rule, not just closure rules.

Section 9. Section 403.4043, F.S., is amended to delete obsolete language relating to compost standards rulemaking.

Section 10. Section 403.7045, F.S., is amended to clarify that industrial byproducts are not regulated under the Solid Waste Management Act if those byproducts are not discharged, deposited, injected, dumped, spilled, leaked or placed upon any land or water so that they constitute a threat of environmental contamination or pose a significant threat to public health.

Also, certain dredged material that is generated as part of a project permitted under part IV of ch. 373, F.S., or ch. 161, F.S., or that is authorized to be removed from sovereign submerged lands under ch. 253, F.S., shall be managed in accordance with the conditions of that permit or authorization unless the dredged material is regulated as a hazardous waste.

Section 11. Section 403.707, F.S., is amended to allow the DEP to exempt, by rule, certain facilities from the requirement for a permit if the construction or operation of the facility is not expected to create any significant threat to the environment or public health. An example would include the registration of yard trash processing facilities. For purposes of Part IV of ch. 403, F.S., (Resource Recovery and Management), and only when specified by DEP rule, permits may include other forms of licenses as defined in s. 120.52, F.S. This is intended to address an issue the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee has raised regarding DEP's authority to provide such exemptions, even if they are technically justified.

Provisions relating to biomedical incinerators are deleted. Biomedical incinerators are currently regulated under DEP's air rules.

Counties may exempt certain wood material from the definition of "construction and demolition debris" under certain conditions to promote an integrated solid waste management program.

Section 12. Section 403.7071, F.S., is created to provide for the management of storm-generated debris resulting from a storm event that is the subject of an emergency order by the DEP.

The DEP may issue field authorizations for staging areas in those counties affected by a storm event. These staging areas may be used for the temporary storage and management of storm-generated debris, including the chipping, grinding, or burning of vegetative debris. A local government shall avoid locating a staging area in wetlands and other surface waters to the greatest extent possible, and the area that is used or affected by a staging area must be fully restored upon cessation of use of the area.

Storm-generated vegetative debris managed at a staging area may be disposed of in a permitted lined or unlined landfill, a permitted land clearing debris facility, or a permitted C&D debris disposal facility. Vegetative debris may also be managed at a permitted waste processing facility or a registered yard trash processing facility.

C&D debris that is mixed with other storm-generated debris need not be segregated from other solid waste prior to disposal in a lined landfill. C&D debris that is source-separated or separated from other hurricane-generated debris at an authorized staging area, may be managed at a permitted C&D debris disposal or recycling facility upon approval by the DEP of the methods and operations practices used to inspect the waste during segregation.

Unsalvageable refrigerators and freezers containing solid waste, such as rotting food, which may create a sanitary nuisance may be disposed of in a permitted lined landfill; however, chlorofluorocarbons and capacitors must be removed and recycled to the greatest extent practicable.

Local governments may conduct the burning of storm-generated yard trash and other vegetative debris in air-curtain incinerators without prior notice to the DEP. Demolition debris may also be burned in air-curtain incinerators if the material is limited to untreated wood. Within 10 days after commencing such burning, the local government must provide certain information to the DEP. The operator of the air-curtain incinerator is subject to any requirement to obtain an open burning authorization from the Division of Forestry of the DACS or any other agency empowered to grant such authorization.

Section 13. Section 403.708, F.S., is amended to delete some obsolete dates and to delete the term "degradable" because the term is not used in this section.

Section 14. Section 403.709, F.S., is amended to delete the specific percentages for the use of the funds in the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund (SWMTF). The current percentages were adopted by the Legislature in 2002 when a significant source of funding for the SWMTF was statutorily transferred to fund various water projects. The SWMTF'S purposes were refocused toward the core solid waste management responsibilities of the DEP and the funding percentages were to apply to: funding the DEP's solid waste activities; research and training programs relating to solid waste management through the Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management; mosquito control activities in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; litter prevention; and certain competitive and innovative grant programs. The percentages were to apply unless otherwise specified in the General Appropriations bill. These specific percentages have not been used in the General Appropriations bill.

This section is also amended to place time restrictions on certain liens imposed by the DEP.

Section 15. Section 403.7095, F.S., is amended to correct a cross-reference.

Section 16. Section 403.7125, F.S., is amended to delete the definitions of "landfill" and "closure" from this section. These definitions appear in s. 403.704, F.S.

The bill limits the use of an escrow account for the closure of a landfill to those landfills owned or operated by a local or state government or the Federal Government. Privately owned or operated landfills must provide other means of financial responsibility for the closure of landfills. However, any landfill owner or operator that had established an escrow account in accordance with the escrow provisions of this section and the conditions of its permit prior to January 1, 2006, may continue to use that escrow account to provide financial assurance for closure of that landfill, even if that landfill is not owned or operated by a local or state government or the Federal Government.

An owner or operator of a landfill owned or operated by a local or state government or by the Federal Government may provide other means of financial assurance to the DEP in lieu of the escrow account.

Section 17. Section 403.716, F.S., is amended to delete provisions relating to the training of operators for waste-to-energy facilities, biomedical waste incinerators, and mobile soil thermal treatment units or facilities. The operators of these facilities are subject to the DEP's rules relating to training requirements under air permits. There has never been a separate solid waste training program for these operators.

Section 18. Section 403.717, F.S., is amended to revise the definitions of "waste tire" and "waste tire processing facility." The term "waste tire" will not include solid rubber tires and tires that are inseparable from the rim. These constitute a small percentage of the discarded tires and these tires are not amenable to recycling. Further, they pose little threat of fire, floating in standing water, or mosquito breeding.

The term "waste tire processing facility" is amended to provide consistency with the term "processed tire."

The provisions requiring a tire storage permit for a tire retreading business where fewer than 1,500 waste tires are kept on the premises is deleted. Currently, no permit is needed for storage of less than 1,500 tires anywhere.

Section 19. Section 403.7221, F.S., is amended, transferred, and renumbered as s. 403.70715, F.S. The DEP is allowed to issue a research, development, and demonstration permit to the owner or operator of any solid waste management facility, including any hazardous waste management facility who proposes to utilize an innovative and experimental solid waste treatment technology or process for which permit standards have not been adopted.

The time periods for such permits is extended from 1 year to 3 years, renewable no more than 3 times. This would remove a conflict with a similar Environmental Protection Agency rule regarding their research, development, and demonstration permits.

Section 20. Section 403.722, F.S., is amended to clarify who must obtain a permit to construct, modify, operate, or close a hazardous waste disposal, storage, or treatment facility. This section is also amended to provide for authorizations issued by the DEP to include both permits and clean closure orders.

The bill further clarifies that if an owner or operator of a hazardous waste facility intends to or is required to discontinue operation, the temporary operation permit must include final closure conditions.

Section 21. Section 403.7226, F.S., is amended to delete a separate report on hazardous waste management. This information is included in the DEP's Solid Waste Management in Florida report.

Section 22. Section 403.724, F.S., is amended to provide that authorizations for hazardous waste facilities include both permits and clean closure plan orders. Further, the amount of financial responsibility that is required for hazardous waste facilities includes the probable costs of properly closing the facility and performing corrective action.

Section 23. Section 403.7255, F.S., is amended to clarify that signs must be placed by the owner or operator at any site in the state which is listed or proposed for listing on the Superfund Site List or any site identified by the DEP as a site contaminated by hazardous waste where this is a risk of exposure to the public. The DEP shall establish requirements and procedures for the placement of signs, and may do so in rules, permits, orders, or other authorizations.

Section 24. Section 403.726, F.S., is amended to allow the DEP to issue an order requiring the prompt abatement of an imminent hazard caused by a hazardous substance. Currently, the DEP may only issue a permit to abate such hazards.

Section 25. Section 403.7265, F.S., is amended to require that local governments match 25 percent of the grant amount for certain hazardous waste collection grants. Currently, eligible local governments may receive up to $50,000 in grant funds for unique and innovative projects that improve the collection of hazardous waste and lower the incidence of improper management of conditionally exempt or household waste, provided they match the grant amount. This bill would reduce the local match requirement to 25 percent of the grant amount; however, if the DEP finds that the project has statewide applicability and has immediate benefits to other local hazardous waste collection programs in the state, matching funds are not required.

Section 26. Section 403.7075, F.S., relating to the submission of plans by certain persons to construct and operate a solid waste facility, is repealed. This section conflicted with the provisions in ch. 471, F.S., that regulate professional engineers.

Section 403.756, F.S., relating to a used oil report, is repealed. This information will be included in the DEP's Solid Waste Management in Florida report.

Section 27. Sections 403.78, 403,781, 403.782, 403.783, 403.784, 403.7841, 403.7842, 403.785, 403.786, 403.787, 403.7871, 403.7872, 403.7873, 403.788, 403.7881, 403.789, 403.7891, 403.7892, 403.7893, and 403.7895, F.S., relating to the Statewide Multipurpose Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Act, are repealed. This act has never been used and it is unlikely that a facility will ever be sited in Florida using these provisions.

Section 28. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

   None.

2. Expenditures:

   None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

   None.

2. Expenditures:

   None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

There is not anticipated to be an economic impact on the general public. Many of the bill's provisions remove outdated or obsolete provisions and clarify several provisions as they relate to local governments and the Department of Environmental Protection.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

   Not applicable because this bill does not appear to: require the counties or cities to spend funds or take an action requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that cities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with cities or counties.

2. Other:

   None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

The Wildflower Advisory Council will now become advisory to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS). On the effective date of this act, the unexpended balance of the Wildflower license plates use fees will be transferred to the DACS. As of December 31, 2005, the balance, as reported by the Wildflower Advisory Council, is $690,095.62.

The Department of Environmental Protection will no longer be required to submit separate reports regarding hazardous waste management and used oil. This information will be consolidated in the department's Solid Waste Management in Florida report, thereby potentially saving personnel time and publication costs.
In order to be eligible to receive a hazardous waste collection grant, local governments currently must match the entire grant amount. This bill reduces the match requirement to 25 percent of the grant amount, and allows the match to be waived under certain circumstances. This may permit more local governments to take advantage of this grant program.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to environmental protection; amending s. 403.413, F.S.; clarifying who is liable for dumping under the Florida Litter Law; amending s. 403.4131, F.S.; deleting the provisions relating to Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc.; providing that certain counties are encouraged to develop a regional approach to coordinating litter control and prevention programs; deleting certain requirements for a litter survey; placing the Wildflower Advisory Council under the control of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; revising the duties of the council; amending s. 403.41315, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made to the Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc., program; amending s. 403.4133, F.S.; placing the Adopt-a-Shore Program within the Department of Environmental Protection; amending s. 320.08058, F.S.; requiring that the proceeds of the fees paid for Wildflower license plates be distributed to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; specifying uses of the proceeds; transferring the balance of such proceeds from Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc., to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; amending s. 403.703, F.S.; reordering definitions in alphabetical order; clarifying certain definitions and deleting definitions that are not used; amending ss. 316.003, 377.709, and 487.048, F.S.; conforming cross-references; amending s. 403.704, F.S.; deleting certain obsolete provisions relating to the state solid waste management program; amending s. 403.7043, F.S.; deleting certain obsolete and

conflicting provisions relating to compost standards; amending s. 403.7045, F.S.; providing that industrial byproducts are not regulated under certain circumstances; conforming a cross-reference; clarifying certain provisions governing dredged material; amending s. 403.707, F.S.; clarifying the Department of Environmental Preservation's permit authority; deleting certain obsolete provisions; creating s. 403.7071, F.S.; providing for the management and disposal of storm-generated debris; amending s. 403.708, F.S.; deleting obsolete provisions and clarifying certain provisions governing landfills; amending s. 403.709, F.S.; revising the provisions relating to the distribution of the waste tire fees; amending s. 403.7095, F.S., relating to the solid waste management grant program; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 403.7125, F.S.; deleting certain definitions that appear elsewhere in law and clarifying certain financial-disclosure provisions with respect to the closure of a landfill; amending s. 403.716, F.S.; deleting certain provisions relating to the training of certain facility operators; amending s. 403.717, F.S.; clarifying the provisions relating to waste tires and the processing of waste tires; transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 403.7221, F.S.; increasing the duration of certain research, development, and demonstration permits; amending s. 403.201, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 403.722, F.S.; clarifying provisions relating to who is required to obtain certain hazardous waste permits; amending s. 403.7226, F.S.; deleting a provision requiring

a report that is duplicative of other reports; amending s. 403.724, F.S.; clarifying certain financial-responsibility provisions; amending s. 403.7255, F.S.; providing additional requirements regarding the public notification of certain contaminated sites; amending s. 403.726, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to issue an order to abate certain hazards; amending s. 403.7265, F.S.; requiring a local government to provide matching funds for certain grants; providing that matching funds are not required under certain conditions; repealing s. 403.7075, F.S., relating to the submission of certain plans for solid waste management facilities; repealing s. 403.756, F.S., relating to an annual used-oil report; repealing ss. 403.78, 403.781, 403.782, 403.783, 403.784, 403.7841, 403.7842, 403.785, 403.786, 403.787, 403.7871, 403.7872, 403.7873, 403.788, 403.7881, 403.789, 403.7891, 403.7892, 403.7893, and 403.7895, F.S., relating to the Statewide Multipurpose Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Act; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 403.413, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.413 Florida Litter Law.--

(4) DUMPING LITTER PROHIBITED.--Unless otherwise authorized by law or permit, it is unlawful for any person to dump litter in any manner or amount:

(a) In or on any public highway, road, street, alley, or

thoroughfare, including any portion of the right-of-way thereof, or any other public lands, except in containers or areas lawfully provided therefor. When any litter is thrown or discarded from a motor vehicle, the operator or owner of the motor vehicle, or both, shall be deemed in violation of this section;

(b) In or on any freshwater lake, river, canal, or stream or tidal or coastal water of the state, including canals. When any litter is thrown or discarded from a boat, the operator or owner of the boat, or both, shall be deemed in violation of this section; or

(c) In or on any private property, unless prior consent of the owner has been given and unless the dumping of such litter by such person will not cause a public nuisance or otherwise be in violation of any other state or local law, rule, or regulation.

Section 2. Section 403.4131, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.4131 Litter control; Wildflower Advisory Council ~~"Keep Florida Beautiful, Incorporated"; placement of signs~~.--

~~(1) It is the intent of the Legislature that a coordinated effort of interested businesses, environmental and civic organizations, and state and local agencies of government be developed to plan for and assist in implementing solutions to the litter and solid waste problems in this state and that the state provide financial assistance for the establishment of a nonprofit organization with the name of "Keep Florida Beautiful, Incorporated," which shall be registered, incorporated, and operated in compliance with chapter 617. This nonprofit organization shall coordinate the statewide campaign and operate as the grassroots arm of the state's effort and shall serve as an~~

~~umbrella organization for volunteer based community programs. The organization shall be dedicated to helping Florida and its local communities solve solid waste problems, to developing and implementing a sustained litter prevention campaign, and to act as a working public private partnership in helping to implement the state's Solid Waste Management Act. As part of this effort, Keep Florida Beautiful, Incorporated, in cooperation with the Environmental Education Foundation, shall strive to educate citizens, visitors, and businesses about the important relationship between the state's environment and economy. Keep Florida Beautiful, Incorporated, is encouraged to explore and identify economic incentives to improve environmental initiatives in the area of solid waste management. The membership of the board of directors of this nonprofit organization may include representatives of the following organizations: the Florida League of Cities, the Florida Association of Counties, the Governor's Office, the Florida Chapter of the National Solid Waste Management Association, the Florida Recyclers Association, the Center for Marine Conservation, Chapter of the Sierra Club, the Associated Industries of Florida, the Florida Soft Drink Association, the Florida Petroleum Council, the Retail Grocers Association of Florida, the Florida Retail Federation, the Pulp and Paper Association, the Florida Automobile Dealers Association, the Beer Industries of Florida, the Florida Beer Wholesalers Association, and the Distilled Spirits Wholesalers.~~

~~(2) As a partner working with government, business, civic, environmental, and other organizations, Keep Florida Beautiful, Incorporated, shall strive to assist the state and its local communities by contracting for the development of a highly~~

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

V

~~visible antilitter campaign that, at a minimum, includes:~~

~~(a) Coordinating with the Center for Marine Conservation and the Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management to identify components of the marine debris and litter stream and groups that habitually litter.~~

~~(b) Designing appropriate advertising to promote the proper management of solid waste, with emphasis on educating groups that habitually litter.~~

~~(c) Fostering public awareness and striving to build an environmental ethic in this state through the development of educational programs that result in an understanding and in action on the part of individuals and organizations about the role they must play in preventing litter and protecting Florida's environment.~~

~~(d) Developing educational programs and materials that promote the proper management of solid waste, including the proper disposal of litter.~~

~~(e) Administering grants provided by the state. Grants authorized under this section shall be subject to normal department audit procedures and review.~~

(1) ~~(3)~~ The Department of Transportation shall establish an "adopt-a-highway" program to allow local organizations to be identified with specific highway cleanup and highway beautification projects authorized under s. 339.2405 ~~and shall coordinate such efforts with Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc~~. The department shall report to the Governor and the Legislature on the progress achieved and the savings incurred by the "adopt-a-highway" program. The department shall also monitor and report on compliance with provisions of the adopt-a-highway program to

ensure that organizations that participate in the program comply with the goals identified by the department.

(2) ~~(4)~~ The Department of Transportation shall place signs discouraging litter at all off-ramps of the interstate highway system in the state. ~~The department shall place other highway signs as necessary to discourage littering through use of the antilitter program developed by Keep Florida Beautiful, Incorporated.~~

(3) ~~(5)~~ Each county is encouraged to initiate a litter control and prevention program or to expand upon its existing program. The department shall establish a system of grants for municipalities and counties to implement litter control and prevention programs. In addition to the activities described in subsection (1), such grants shall at a minimum be used for litter cleanup, grassroots educational programs involving litter removal and prevention, and the placement of litter and recycling receptacles. Counties are encouraged to form working public private partnerships as authorized under this section to implement litter control and prevention programs at the community level. The grants authorized pursuant to this section shall be incorporated as part of the recycling and education grants. Counties that have a population under 100,000 ~~75,000~~ are encouraged to develop a regional approach to administering and coordinating their litter control and prevention programs.

~~(6) The department may contract with Keep Florida Beautiful, Incorporated, to help carry out the provisions of this section. All contracts authorized under this section are subject to normal department audit procedures and review.~~

~~(7) In order to establish continuity for the statewide~~

~~program, those local governments and community programs receiving grants for litter prevention and control must use the official State of Florida litter control or campaign symbol adopted by Keep Florida Beautiful, Incorporated, for use on various receptacles and program material.~~

~~(8) The Legislature establishes a litter reduction goal of 50 percent reduction from the period January 1, 1994, to January 1, 1997. The method of determination used to measure the reduction in litter is the survey conducted by the Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management. The center shall consider existing litter survey methodologies.~~

~~(9) The Department of Environmental Protection shall contract with the Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management for an ongoing annual litter survey, the first of which is to be conducted by January 1, 1994. The center shall appoint a broad-based work group not to exceed seven members to assist in the development and implementation of the survey. Representatives from the university system, business, government, and the environmental community shall be considered by the center to serve on the work group. Final authority on implementing and conducting the survey rests with the center. The first survey is to be designed to serve as a baseline by measuring the amount of current litter and marine debris, and is to include a methodology for measuring the reduction in the amount of litter and marine debris to determine the progress toward the litter reduction goal established in subsection (8). Annually thereafter, additional surveys are to be conducted and must also include a methodology for measuring the reduction in the amount of litter and for determining progress toward the litter reduction goal established~~

~~in subsection (8).~~

(4)~~(10)~~(a) There is created within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services ~~within Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc.,~~ the Wildflower Advisory Council, consisting of a maximum of ten ~~nine~~ members ~~to direct and oversee the expenditure of the Wildflower Account~~. The Wildflower Advisory Council shall include a representative from the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, the Florida Department of Transportation, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, ~~and~~ the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Florida League of Cities, and the Florida Association of Counties. Other members of the committee may include representatives from the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., Think Beauty Foundation, the Florida Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Inc., and a representative of the Master Gardener's Program.

(b) The Wildflower Advisory Council shall advise the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and develop procedures of operation, research contracts, educational and marketing programs, and wildflower planting grants for Florida native wildflowers, plants, and grasses. The council shall also make recommendations to the department concerning ~~the final determination of~~ what constitutes acceptable species of wildflowers and other plantings supported by these programs.

Section 3. Section 403.41315, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.41315 Comprehensive illegal dumping, litter, and marine debris control and prevention.--

(1) The Legislature finds that a comprehensive illegal

dumping, litter, and marine debris control and prevention program is necessary to protect the beauty and the environment of Florida. The Legislature also recognizes that a comprehensive illegal dumping, litter, and marine debris control and prevention program will have a positive effect on the state's economy. The Legislature finds that the state's rapid population growth, the ever-increasing mobility of its population, and the large number of tourists contribute to the need for a comprehensive illegal dumping, litter, and marine debris control and prevention program. The Legislature further finds that the program must be coordinated and capable of having statewide identity and grassroots community support.

(2) The comprehensive illegal dumping, litter, and marine debris control and prevention program at a minimum must include the following:

(a) A local ~~statewide~~ public awareness and educational campaign~~, coordinated by Keep Florida Beautiful, Incorporated,~~ to educate individuals, government, businesses, and other organizations concerning the role they must assume in preventing and controlling litter.

(b) Enforcement provisions authorized under s. 403.413.

(c) Enforcement officers whose responsibilities include grassroots education along with enforcing litter and illegal dumping violations.

(d) Local illegal dumping, litter, and marine debris control and prevention programs operated at the county level with emphasis placed on grassroots educational programs designed to prevent and remove litter and marine debris.

(e) A statewide adopt-a-highway program as authorized under

s. 403.4131.

(f) The highway beautification program authorized under s. 339.2405.

(g) A statewide Adopt-a-Shore program that includes beach, river, and lake shorelines and emphasizes litter and marine debris cleanup and prevention.

(h) The prohibition of balloon releases as authorized under s. 372.995.

(i) The placement of approved identifiable litter and recycling receptacles.

(j) Other educational programs that are implemented at the grassroots level ~~coordinated through Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc.,~~ involving volunteers and community programs that clean up and prevent litter, including Youth Conservation Corps activities.

Section 4. Section 403.4133, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.4133 Adopt-a-Shore Program.--

(1) The Legislature finds that litter and illegal dumping present a threat to the state's wildlife, environment, and shorelines. The Legislature further finds that public awareness and education will assist in preventing litter from being illegally deposited along the state's shorelines.

(2) The Adopt-a-Shore Program shall be created within the Department of Environmental Protection ~~nonprofit organization referred to in s. 403.4131(1), named Keep Florida Beautiful, Incorporated~~. The program shall be designed to educate the state's citizens and visitors about the importance of litter prevention and shall include approaches and techniques to remove

litter from the state's shorelines.

(3) For the purposes of this section, the term "shoreline" includes, but is not limited to, beaches, rivershores, and lakeshores.

Section 5. Subsection (28) of section 320.08058, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.08058 Specialty license plates.--

(28) FLORIDA WILDFLOWER LICENSE PLATES.--

(a) The department shall develop a Florida Wildflower license plate as provided in this section. The word "Florida" must appear at the top of the plate, and the words "State Wildflower" and "coreopsis" must appear at the bottom of the plate.

(b) The annual use fees shall be distributed to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, to be used for the purposes set forth in ~~Wildflower Account established by Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc., created by~~ s. 403.4131. The proceeds must be used to establish native Florida wildflower research programs, wildflower educational programs, and wildflower grant programs to municipal, county, and community-based groups in this state. A maximum of 10 percent of the proceeds from the sale of such plates may be used for administrative costs.

Section 6. All unexpended proceeds of fees paid for Wildflower license plates which are held by Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc., must be transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services promptly after the effective date of this act.

Section 7. Section 403.703, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

(Substantial rewording of section. See s. 403.703, F.S., for present text.)

403.703 Definitions.--As used in this part, the term:

(1) "Ash residue" has the same meaning as in the department rule governing solid waste combustors which defines the term.

(2) "Biological waste" means solid waste that causes or has the capability of causing disease or infection and includes, but is not limited to, biomedical waste, diseased or dead animals, and other wastes capable of transmitting pathogens to humans or animals. The term does not include human remains that are disposed of by persons licensed under chapter 497.

(3) "Biomedical waste" means any solid waste or liquid waste that may present a threat of infection to humans. The term includes, but is not limited to, nonliquid human tissue and body parts; laboratory and veterinary waste that contains human-disease-causing agents; discarded disposable sharps; human blood and human blood products and body fluids; and other materials that in the opinion of the Department of Health represent a significant risk of infection to persons outside the generating facility. The term does not include human remains that are disposed of by persons licensed under chapter 497.

(4) "Clean debris" means any solid waste that is virtually inert, that is not a pollution threat to groundwater or surface waters, that is not a fire hazard, and that is likely to retain its physical and chemical structure under expected conditions of disposal or use. The term includes uncontaminated concrete, including embedded pipe or steel, brick, glass, ceramics, and other wastes designated by the department.

(5) "Closure" means the cessation of operation of a solid

waste management facility and the act of securing such facility so that it will pose no significant threat to human health or the environment and includes long-term monitoring and maintenance of a facility if required by department rule.

(6) "Construction and demolition debris" means discarded materials generally considered to be not water-soluble and nonhazardous in nature, including, but not limited to, steel, glass, brick, concrete, asphalt roofing material, pipe, gypsum wallboard, and lumber, from the construction or destruction of a structure as part of a construction or demolition project or from the renovation of a structure, and includes rocks, soils, tree remains, trees, and other vegetative matter that normally results from land clearing or land-development operations for a construction project, including such debris from construction of structures at a site remote from the construction or demolition project site. Mixing of construction and demolition debris with other types of solid waste will cause the resulting mixture to be classified as other than construction and demolition debris. The term also includes:

(a) Clean cardboard, paper, plastic, wood, and metal scraps from a construction project.

(b) Except as provided in s. 403.707(9)(j), yard trash and unpainted, nontreated wood scraps from sources other than construction or demolition projects.

(c) Scrap from manufacturing facilities which is the type of material generally used in construction projects and which would meet the definition of construction and demolition debris if it were generated as part of a construction or demolition project. This includes debris from the construction of

manufactured homes and scrap shingles, wallboard, siding concrete, and similar materials from industrial or commercial facilities.

(d) De minimis amounts of other nonhazardous wastes that are generated at construction or destruction projects, provided such amounts are consistent with best management practices of the industry.

(7) "County," or any like term, means a political subdivision of the state established pursuant to s. 1, Art. VIII of the State Constitution and, when s. 403.706(19) applies, means a special district or other entity.

(8) "Department" means the Department of Environmental Protection or any successor agency performing a like function.

(9) "Disposal" means the discharge, deposit, injection, dumping, spilling, leaking, or placing of any solid waste or hazardous waste into or upon any land or water so that such solid waste or hazardous waste or any constituent thereof may enter other lands or be emitted into the air or discharged into any waters, including groundwaters, or otherwise enter the environment.

(10) "Generation" means the act or process of producing solid or hazardous waste.

(11) "Guarantor" means any person, other than the owner or operator, who provides evidence of financial responsibility for an owner or operator under this part.

(12) "Hazardous substance" means any substance that is defined as a hazardous substance in the United States Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, 94 Stat. 2767.

(13) "Hazardous waste" means solid waste, or a combination of solid wastes, which, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics, may cause, or significantly contribute to, an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible or incapacitating reversible illness or may pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly transported, disposed of, stored, treated, or otherwise managed. The term does not include human remains that are disposed of by persons licensed under chapter 497.

(14) "Hazardous waste facility" means any building, site, structure, or equipment at or by which hazardous waste is disposed of, stored, or treated.

(15) "Hazardous waste management" means the systematic control of the collection, source separation, storage, transportation, processing, treatment, recovery, recycling, and disposal of hazardous wastes.

(16) "Land disposal" means any placement of hazardous waste in or on the land and includes, but is not limited to, placement in a landfill, surface impoundment, waste pile, injection well, land treatment facility, salt bed formation, salt dome formation, or underground mine or cave, or placement in a concrete vault or bunker intended for disposal purposes.

(17) "Landfill" means any solid waste land disposal area for which a permit, other than a general permit, is required by s. 403.707 and which receives solid waste for disposal in or upon land. The term does not include a landspreading site, an injection well, a surface impoundment, or a facility for the disposal of construction and demolition debris.

(18) "Manifest" means the recordkeeping system used for identifying the concentration, quantity, composition, origin, routing, and destination of hazardous waste during its transportation from the point of generation to the point of disposal, storage, or treatment.

(19) "Materials recovery facility" means a solid waste management facility that provides for the extraction from solid waste of recyclable materials, materials suitable for use as a fuel or soil amendment, or any combination of such materials.

(20) "Municipality," or any like term, means a municipality created pursuant to general or special law authorized or recognized pursuant to s. 2 or s. 6, Art. VIII of the State Constitution and, when s. 403.706(19) applies, means a special district or other entity.

(21) "Operation," with respect to any solid waste management facility, means the disposal, storage, or processing of solid waste at and by the facility.

(22) "Person" means any and all persons, natural or artificial, including any individual, firm, or association; any municipal or private corporation organized or existing under the laws of this state or any other state; any county of this state; and any governmental agency of this state or the Federal Government.

(23) "Processing" means any technique designed to change the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of any solid waste so as to render it safe for transport; amenable to recovery, storage, or recycling; safe for disposal; or reduced in volume or concentration.

(24) "Recovered materials" means metal, paper, glass,

plastic, textile, or rubber materials that have known recycling potential, can be feasibly recycled, and have been diverted and source separated or have been removed from the solid waste stream for sale, use, or reuse as raw materials, whether or not the materials require subsequent processing or separation from each other, but the term does not include materials destined for any use that constitutes disposal. Recovered materials as described in this subsection are not solid waste.

(25) "Recovered materials processing facility" means a facility engaged solely in the storage, processing, resale, or reuse of recovered materials. Such a facility is not a solid waste management facility if it meets the conditions of s. 403.7045(1)(e).

(26) "Recyclable material" means those materials that are capable of being recycled and that would otherwise be processed or disposed of as solid waste.

(27) "Recycling" means any process by which solid waste, or materials that would otherwise become solid waste, are collected, separated, or processed and reused or returned to use in the form of raw materials or products.

(28) "Resource recovery" means the process of recovering materials or energy from solid waste, excluding those materials or solid waste under the control of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

(29) "Resource recovery equipment" means equipment or machinery exclusively and integrally used in the actual process of recovering material or energy resources from solid waste.

(30) "Sludge" includes the accumulated solids, residues, and precipitates generated as a result of waste treatment or

processing, including wastewater treatment, water-supply treatment, or operation of an air pollution control facility, and mixed liquids and solids pumped from septic tanks, grease traps, privies, or similar waste disposal appurtenances.

(31) "Solid waste" means sludge unregulated under the federal Clean Water Act or Clean Air Act, sludge from a waste treatment works, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility, or garbage, rubbish, refuse, special waste, or other discarded material, including solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from domestic, industrial, commercial, mining, agricultural, or governmental operations. Recovered materials as defined in subsection (24) are not solid waste.

(32) "Solid waste disposal facility" means any solid waste management facility that is the final resting place for solid waste, including landfills and incineration facilities that produce ash from the process of incinerating municipal solid waste.

(33) "Solid waste management" means the process by which solid waste is collected, transported, stored, separated, processed, or disposed of in any other way according to an orderly, purposeful, and planned program, which includes closure.

(34) "Solid waste management facility" means any solid waste disposal area, volume-reduction plant, transfer station, materials recovery facility, or other facility, the purpose of which is resource recovery or the disposal, recycling, processing, or storage of solid waste. The term does not include recovered materials processing facilities that meet the requirements of s. 403.7046, except the portion of such

facilities, if any, which is used for the management of solid waste.

(35) "Source separated" means that the recovered materials are separated from solid waste at the location where the recovered materials and solid waste are generated. The term does not require that various types of recovered materials be separated from each other, and recognizes de minimis solid waste, in accordance with industry standards and practices, may be included in the recovered materials. Materials are not considered source-separated when two or more types of recovered materials are deposited in combination with each other in a commercial collection container located where the materials are generated and when such materials contain more than 10 percent solid waste by volume or weight. For purposes of this subsection, the term "various types of recovered materials" means metals, paper, glass, plastic, textiles, and rubber.

(36) "Special wastes" means solid wastes that can require special handling and management, including, but not limited to, white goods, waste tires, used oil, lead-acid batteries, construction and demolition debris, ash residue, yard trash, and biological wastes.

(37) "Storage" means the containment or holding of a hazardous waste, either on a temporary basis or for a period of years, in such a manner as not to constitute disposal of such hazardous waste.

(38) "Transfer station" means a site the primary purpose of which is to store or hold solid waste for transport to a processing or disposal facility.

(39) "Transport" means the movement of hazardous waste from

the point of generation or point of entry into the state to any offsite intermediate points and to the point of offsite ultimate disposal, storage, treatment, or exit from the state.

(40) "Treatment," when used in connection with hazardous waste, means any method, technique, or process, including neutralization, which is designed to change the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of any hazardous waste so as to neutralize it or render it nonhazardous, safe for transport, amenable to recovery, amenable to storage or disposal, or reduced in volume or concentration. The term includes any activity or processing that is designed to change the physical form or chemical composition of hazardous waste so as to render it nonhazardous.

(41) "Volume reduction plant" includes incinerators, pulverizers, compactors, shredding and baling plants, composting plants, and other plants that accept and process solid waste for recycling or disposal.

(42) "White goods" includes inoperative and discarded refrigerators, ranges, water heaters, freezers, and other similar domestic and commercial large appliances.

(43) "Yard trash" means vegetative matter resulting from landscaping maintenance and land clearing operations and includes associated rocks and soils.

Section 8. Subsection (69) of section 316.003, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.003 Definitions.--The following words and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except where the context otherwise requires:

(69) HAZARDOUS MATERIAL.--Any substance or material which has been determined by the secretary of the United States Department of Transportation to be capable of imposing an unreasonable risk to health, safety, and property. This term includes hazardous waste as defined in s. 403.703(13) ~~s. 403.703(21)~~.

Section 9. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 377.709, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

377.709 Funding by electric utilities of local governmental solid waste facilities that generate electricity.--

(2) DEFINITIONS.--As used in this section, the term:

(f) "Solid waste facility" means a facility owned or operated by, or on behalf of, a local government for the purpose of disposing of solid waste, as that term is defined in s. 403.703(31) ~~s. 403.703(13)~~, by any process that produces heat and incorporates, as a part of the facility, the means of converting heat to electrical energy in amounts greater than actually required for the operation of the facility.

Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 487.048, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

487.048 Dealer's license; records.--

(1) Each person holding or offering for sale, selling, or distributing restricted-use pesticides shall obtain a dealer's license from the department. Application for the license shall be made on a form prescribed by the department. The license must be obtained before entering into business or transferring ownership of a business. The department may require examination or other proof of competency of individuals to whom licenses are issued or of individuals employed by persons to whom licenses are issued.

Demonstration of continued competency may be required for license renewal, as set by rule. The license shall be renewed annually as provided by rule. An annual license fee not exceeding $250 shall be established by rule. However, a user of a restricted-use pesticide may distribute unopened containers of a properly labeled pesticide to another user who is legally entitled to use that restricted-use pesticide without obtaining a pesticide dealer's license. The exclusive purpose of distribution of the restricted-use pesticide is to keep it from becoming a hazardous waste as defined in s. 403.703(13) ~~s. 403.703(21)~~.

Section 11. Section 403.704, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.704 Powers and duties of the department.--The department shall have responsibility for the implementation and enforcement of the provisions of this act. In addition to other powers and duties, the department shall:

(1) Develop and implement, in consultation with local governments, a state solid waste management program, as defined in s. 403.705~~, and update the program at least every 3 years~~. ~~In developing rules to implement the state solid waste management program, the department shall hold public hearings around the state and shall give notice of such public hearings to all local governments and regional planning agencies.~~

(2) Provide technical assistance to counties, municipalities, and other persons, and cooperate with appropriate federal agencies and private organizations in carrying out the provisions of this act.

(3) Promote the planning and application of recycling and resource recovery systems which preserve and enhance the quality

of the air, water, and other natural resources of the state and assist in and encourage, where appropriate, the development of regional solid waste management facilities.

(4) Serve as the official state representative for all purposes of the federal Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by Pub. L. No. 91-512, or as subsequently amended.

(5) Use private industry or the State University System through contractual arrangements for implementation of some or all of the requirements of the state solid waste management program and for such other activities as may be considered necessary, desirable, or convenient.

(6) Encourage recycling and resource recovery as a source of energy and materials.

(7) Assist in and encourage, as much as possible, the development within the state of industries and commercial enterprises which are based upon resource recovery, recycling, and reuse of solid waste.

~~(8) Charge reasonable fees for any services it performs pursuant to this act, provided user fees shall apply uniformly within each municipality or county to all users who are provided with solid waste management services.~~

~~(9) Acquire, at its discretion, personal or real property or any interest therein by gift, lease, or purchase for the purpose of providing sites for solid waste management facilities.~~

~~(10) Acquire, construct, reconstruct, improve, maintain, equip, furnish, and operate, at its discretion, such solid waste management facilities as are called for by the state solid waste management program.~~

~~(11) Receive funds or revenues from the sale of products,~~

~~materials, fuels, or energy in any form derived from processing of solid waste by state-owned or state-operated facilities, which funds or revenues shall be deposited into the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund.~~

(8) ~~(12)~~ Determine by rule the facilities, equipment, personnel, and number of monitoring wells to be provided at each ~~Class I~~ solid waste disposal area.

~~(13) Encourage, but not require, as part of a Class II solid waste disposal area, a potable water supply; an employee shelter; handwashing and toilet facilities; equipment washout facilities; electric service for operations and repairs; equipment shelter for maintenance and storage of parts, equipment, and tools; scales for weighing solid waste received at the disposal area; a trained equipment operator in full-time attendance during operating hours; and communication facilities for use in emergencies. The department may require an attendant at a Class II solid waste disposal area during the hours of operation if the department affirmatively demonstrates that such a requirement is necessary to prevent unlawful fires, unauthorized dumping, or littering of nearby property.~~

~~(14) Require a Class II solid waste disposal area to have at least one monitoring well which shall be placed adjacent to the site in the direction of groundwater flow unless otherwise exempted by the department. The department may require additional monitoring wells not farther than 1 mile from the site if it is affirmatively demonstrated by the department that a significant change in the initial quality of the water has occurred in the downstream monitoring well which adversely affects the beneficial uses of the water. These wells may be public or private water~~

~~supply wells if they are suitable for use in determining background water quality levels.~~

(9) ~~(15)~~ Adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement and enforce the provisions of this act, including requirements for the classification, construction, operation, maintenance, and closure of solid waste management facilities and requirements for, and conditions on, solid waste disposal in this state, whether such solid waste is generated within this state or outside this state as long as such requirements and conditions are not based on the out-of-state origin of the waste and are consistent with applicable provisions of law. When classifying solid waste management facilities, the department shall consider the hydrogeology of the site for the facility, the types of wastes to be handled by the facility, and methods used to control the types of waste to be handled by the facility and shall seek to minimize the adverse effects of solid waste management on the environment. Whenever the department adopts any rule stricter or more stringent than one which has been set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the procedures set forth in s. 403.804(2) shall be followed. The department shall not, however, adopt hazardous waste rules for solid waste for which special studies were required prior to October 1, 1988, under s. 8002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. s. 6982, as amended, until the studies are completed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the information is available to the department for consideration in adopting its own rule.

(10) ~~(16)~~ Issue or modify permits on such conditions as are necessary to effect the intent and purposes of this act, and may deny or revoke permits.

~~(17) Conduct research, using the State University System, solid waste professionals from local governments, private enterprise, and other organizations, on alternative, economically feasible, cost-effective, and environmentally safe solid waste management and landfill closure methods which protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public and the environment and which may assist in developing markets and provide economic benefits to local governments, the state, and its citizens, and solicit public participation during the research process. The department shall incorporate such cost-effective landfill closure methods in the appropriate department rule as alternative closure requirements.~~

(11) ~~(18)~~ Develop and implement or contract for services to develop information on recovered materials markets and strategies for market development and expansion for use of these materials. Additionally, the department shall maintain a directory of recycling businesses operating in the state and shall serve as a coordinator to match recovered materials with markets. Such directory shall be made available to the public and to local governments to assist with their solid waste management activities.

~~(19) Authorize variances from solid waste closure rules adopted pursuant to this part, provided such variances are applied for and approved in accordance with s. 403.201 and will not result in significant threats to human health or the environment.~~

(12) ~~(20)~~ Establish accounts and deposit to the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund and control and administer moneys it may withdraw from the fund.

(13) ~~(21)~~ Manage a program of grants, using funds from the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund and funds provided by the Legislature for solid waste management, for programs for recycling, composting, litter control, and special waste management and for programs which provide for the safe and proper management of solid waste.

(14) ~~(22)~~ Budget and receive appropriated funds and accept, receive, and administer grants or other funds or gifts from public or private agencies, including the state and the Federal Government, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act.

(15) ~~(23)~~ Delegate its powers, enter into contracts, or take such other actions as may be necessary to implement this act.

(16) ~~(24)~~ Receive and administer funds appropriated for county hazardous waste management assessments.

(17) ~~(25)~~ Provide technical assistance to local governments and regional agencies to ensure consistency between county hazardous waste management assessments; coordinate the development of such assessments with the assistance of the appropriate regional planning councils; and review and make recommendations to the Legislature relative to the sufficiency of the assessments to meet state hazardous waste management needs.

(18) ~~(26)~~ Increase public education and public awareness of solid and hazardous waste issues by developing and promoting statewide programs of litter control, recycling, volume reduction, and proper methods of solid waste and hazardous waste management.

(19) ~~(27)~~ Assist the hazardous waste storage, treatment, or disposal industry by providing to the industry any data produced

on the types and quantities of hazardous waste generated.

(20) ~~(28)~~ Institute a hazardous waste emergency response program which would include emergency telecommunication capabilities and coordination with appropriate agencies.

(21) ~~(29)~~ Promulgate rules necessary to accept delegation of the hazardous waste management program from the Environmental Protection Agency under the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984, Pub. L. No. 98-616.

(22) ~~(30)~~ Adopt rules, if necessary, to address the incineration and disposal of biomedical waste and the management of biological waste within the state, whether such waste is generated within this state or outside this state, as long as such requirements and conditions are not based on the out-of-state origin of the waste and are consistent with applicable provisions of law.

Section 12. Section 403.7043, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.7043 Compost standards and applications.--

(1) In order to protect the state's land and water resources, compost produced, utilized, or disposed of by the composting process at solid waste management facilities in the state must meet criteria established by the department.

(2) The department shall ~~Within 6 months after October 1, 1988, the department shall initiate rulemaking to~~ establish and maintain rules addressing standards for the production of compost ~~and shall complete and promulgate those rules within 12 months after initiating the process of rulemaking~~, including rules establishing:

(a) Requirements necessary to produce hygienically safe

compost products for varying applications.

(b) A classification scheme for compost based on~~:~~ the types of waste composted, ~~including at least one type containing only yard trash;~~ the maturity of the compost, ~~including at least three degrees of decomposition for fresh, semimature, and mature;~~ and the levels of organic and inorganic constituents in the compost. This scheme shall address:

1. Methods for measurement of the compost maturity.

2. Particle sizes.

3. Moisture content.

4. Average levels of organic and inorganic constituents, including heavy metals, for such classes of compost as the department establishes, and the analytical methods to determine those levels.

~~(3) Within 6 months after October 1, 1988, the department shall initiate rulemaking to prescribe the allowable uses and application rates of compost and shall complete and promulgate those rules within 12 months after initiating the process of rulemaking, based on the following criteria:~~

~~(a) The total quantity of organic and inorganic constituents, including heavy metals, allowed to be applied through the addition of compost to the soil per acre per year.~~

~~(b) The allowable uses of compost based on maturity and type of compost.~~

~~(4) If compost is produced which does not meet the criteria prescribed by the department for agricultural and other use, the compost must be reprocessed or disposed of in a manner approved by the department, unless a different application is specifically permitted by the department.~~

~~(5) The provisions of s. 403.706 shall not prohibit any county or municipality which has in place a memorandum of understanding or other written agreement as of October 1, 1988, from proceeding with plans to build a compost facility.~~

Section 13. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 403.7045, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

403.7045 Application of act and integration with other acts.--

(1) The following wastes or activities shall not be regulated pursuant to this act:

(a) Byproduct material, source material, and special nuclear material, the generation, transportation, disposal, storage, or treatment of which is regulated under chapter 404 or under the federal Atomic Energy Act of 1954, ch. 1073, 68 Stat. 923, as amended;

(b) Suspended solids and dissolved materials in domestic sewage effluent or irrigation return flows or other discharges which are point sources subject to permits pursuant to provisions of this chapter or pursuant to s. 402 of the Clean Water Act, Pub. L. No. 95-217;

(c) Emissions to the air from a stationary installation or source regulated under provisions of this chapter or under the Clean Air Act, Pub. L. No. 95-95;

(d) Drilling fluids, produced waters, and other wastes associated with the exploration for, or development and production of, crude oil or natural gas which are regulated under chapter 377; or

(e) Recovered materials or recovered materials processing facilities shall not be regulated pursuant to this act, except as

provided in s. 403.7046, if:

1. A majority of the recovered materials at the facility are demonstrated to be sold, used, or reused within 1 year.

2. The recovered materials handled by the facility or the products or byproducts of operations that process recovered materials are not discharged, deposited, injected, dumped, spilled, leaked, or placed into or upon any land or water by the owner or operator of such facility so that such recovered materials, products or byproducts, or any constituent thereof may enter other lands or be emitted into the air or discharged into any waters, including groundwaters, or otherwise enter the environment such that a threat of contamination in excess of applicable department standards and criteria is caused.

3. The recovered materials handled by the facility are not hazardous wastes as defined under s. 403.703, and rules promulgated pursuant thereto.

4. The facility is registered as required in s. 403.7046.

(f) Industrial byproducts, if:

1. A majority of the industrial byproducts are demonstrated to be sold, used, or reused within 1 year.

2. The industrial byproducts are not discharged, deposited, injected, dumped, spilled, leaked, or placed upon any land or water so that such industrial byproducts, or any constituent thereof, may enter other lands or be emitted into the air or discharged into any waters, including groundwaters, or otherwise enter the environment such that a threat of contamination in excess of applicable department standards and criteria <u>or a significant threat to public health</u> is caused.

3. The industrial byproducts are not hazardous wastes as

defined under s. 403.703 and rules adopted under this section.

(2) Except as provided in s. 403.704(9) ~~s. 403.704(15)~~, the following wastes shall not be regulated as a hazardous waste pursuant to this act, except when determined by the United States Environmental Protection Agency to be a hazardous waste:

(a) Ashes and scrubber sludges generated from the burning of boiler fuel for generation of electricity or steam.

(b) Agricultural and silvicultural byproduct material and agricultural and silvicultural process waste from normal farming or processing.

(c) Discarded material generated by the mining and beneficiation and chemical or thermal processing of phosphate rock, and precipitates resulting from neutralization of phosphate chemical plant process and nonprocess waters.

(3) The following wastes or activities shall be regulated pursuant to this act in the following manner:

(a) Dredged material that is generated as part of a project permitted under part IV of chapter 373 or chapter 161, or that is authorized to be removed from sovereign submerged lands under chapter 253, ~~Dredge spoil or fill material~~ shall be managed in accordance with the conditions of that permit or authorization unless the dredged material is regulated as hazardous waste pursuant to this part ~~disposed of pursuant to a dredge and fill permit, but whenever hazardous components are disposed of within the dredge or fill material, the dredge and fill permits shall specify the specific hazardous wastes contained and the concentration of each such waste~~. If the dredged material contains hazardous substances, the department may further ~~then~~ limit or restrict the sale or use of the dredged ~~dredge and fill~~

material and may specify such other conditions relative to this material as are reasonably necessary to protect the public from the potential hazards.

(b) Hazardous wastes that ~~which~~ are contained in artificial recharge waters or other waters intentionally introduced into any underground formation and that ~~which~~ are permitted pursuant to s. 373.106 shall also be handled in compliance with the requirements and standards for disposal, storage, and treatment of hazardous waste under this act.

(c) Solid waste or hazardous waste facilities that ~~which~~ are operated as a part of the normal operation of a power generating facility and which are licensed by certification pursuant to the Florida Electrical Power Plant Siting Act, ss. 403.501-403.518, shall undergo such certification subject to the substantive provisions of this act.

(d) Biomedical waste and biological waste shall be disposed of only as authorized by the department. However, any person who unknowingly disposes into a sanitary landfill or waste-to-energy facility any such waste that ~~which~~ has not been properly segregated or separated from other solid wastes by the generating facility is not guilty of a violation under this act. ~~Nothing in~~ This paragraph does not ~~shall be construed to~~ prohibit the department from seeking injunctive relief pursuant to s. 403.131 to prohibit the unauthorized disposal of biomedical waste or biological waste.

Section 14. Section 403.707, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.707 Permits.--

(1) A ~~No~~ solid waste management facility may not be

operated, maintained, constructed, expanded, modified, or closed without an appropriate and currently valid permit issued by the department. The department may, by rule, exempt specified types of facilities from the requirement for a permit if it determines that construction for operation of the facility is not expected to create any significant threat to the environment or public health. For purposes of this part, and only when specified by department rule, a permit may include registrations as well as other forms of licenses as defined in s. 120.52. Solid waste construction permits issued under this section may include any permit conditions necessary to achieve compliance with the recycling requirements of this act. The department shall pursue reasonable timeframes for closure and construction requirements, considering pending federal requirements and implementation costs to the permittee. The department shall adopt a rule establishing performance standards for construction and closure of solid waste management facilities. The standards shall allow flexibility in design and consideration for site-specific characteristics.

(2) Except as provided in s. 403.722(6), no permit under this section is required for the following, provided that the activity shall not create a public nuisance or any condition adversely affecting the environment or public health and shall not violate other state or local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, or orders:

(a) Disposal by persons of solid waste resulting from their own activities on their own property, provided such waste is either ordinary household waste from their residential property or is rocks, soils, trees, tree remains, and other vegetative matter that ~~which~~ normally result from land development

operations. Disposal of materials that ~~which~~ could create a public nuisance or adversely affect the environment or public health, such as: white goods; automotive materials, such as batteries and tires; petroleum products; pesticides; solvents; or hazardous substances, is not covered under this exemption.

(b) Storage in containers by persons of solid waste resulting from their own activities on their property, leased or rented property, or property subject to a homeowners or maintenance association for which the person contributes association assessments, if the solid waste in such containers is collected at least once a week.

(c) Disposal by persons of solid waste resulting from their own activities on their property, provided the environmental effects of such disposal on groundwater and surface waters are:

1. Addressed or authorized by a site certification order issued under part II or a permit issued by the department pursuant to this chapter or rules adopted pursuant thereto; or

2. Addressed or authorized by, or exempted from the requirement to obtain, a groundwater monitoring plan approved by the department.

(d) Disposal by persons of solid waste resulting from their own activities on their own property, provided that such disposal occurred prior to October 1, 1988.

(e) Disposal of solid waste resulting from normal farming operations as defined by department rule. Polyethylene agricultural plastic, damaged, nonsalvageable, untreated wood pallets, and packing material that cannot be feasibly recycled, which are used in connection with agricultural operations related to the growing, harvesting, or maintenance of crops, may be

disposed of by open burning, provided that no public nuisance or any condition adversely affecting the environment or the public health is created thereby and that state or federal ambient air quality standards are not violated.

(f) The use of clean debris as fill material in any area. However, this paragraph does not exempt any person from obtaining any other required permits, nor does it affect a person's responsibility to dispose of clean debris appropriately if it is not to be used as fill material.

(g) Compost operations that produce less than 50 cubic yards of compost per year when the compost produced is used on the property where the compost operation is located.

(3) All applicable provisions of ss. 403.087 and 403.088, relating to permits, apply to the control of solid waste management facilities.

(4) When application for a construction permit for a Class I ~~or Class II~~ solid waste disposal area is made, it is the duty of the department to provide a copy of the application, within 7 days after filing, to the water management district having jurisdiction where the area is to be located. The water management district may prepare an advisory report as to the impact on water resources. This report shall contain the district's recommendations as to the disposition of the application and shall be submitted to the department no later than 30 days prior to the deadline for final agency action by the department. However, the failure of the department or the water management district to comply with the provisions of this subsection shall not be the basis for the denial, revocation, or remand of any permit or order issued by the department.

(5) The department may not issue a construction permit pursuant to this part for a new solid waste landfill within 3,000 feet of Class I surface waters.

(6) The department may issue a construction permit pursuant to this part only to a solid waste management facility that provides the conditions necessary to control the safe movement of wastes or waste constituents into surface or ground waters or the atmosphere and that will be operated, maintained, and closed by qualified and properly trained personnel. Such facility must if necessary:

(a) Use natural or artificial barriers which are capable of controlling lateral or vertical movement of wastes or waste constituents into surface or ground waters.

(b) Have a foundation or base that is capable of providing support for structures and waste deposits and capable of preventing foundation or base failure due to settlement, compression, or uplift.

(c) Provide for the most economically feasible, cost-effective, and environmentally safe control of leachate, gas, stormwater, and disease vectors and prevent the endangerment of public health and the environment.

Open fires, air-curtain incinerators, or trench burning may not be used as a means of disposal at a solid waste management facility, unless permitted by the department under s. 403.087.

(7) Prior to application for a construction permit, an applicant shall designate to the department temporary backup disposal areas or processes for the resource recovery facility. Failure to designate temporary backup disposal areas or processes

shall result in a denial of the construction permit.

(8) The department may refuse to issue a permit to an applicant who by past conduct in this state has repeatedly violated pertinent statutes, rules, or orders or permit terms or conditions relating to any solid waste management facility and who is deemed to be irresponsible as defined by department rule. For the purposes of this subsection, an applicant includes the owner or operator of the facility, or if the owner or operator is a business entity, a parent of a subsidiary corporation, a partner, a corporate officer or director, or a stockholder holding more than 50 percent of the stock of the corporation.

~~(9) Before or on the same day of filing with the department of an application for any construction permit for the incineration of biomedical waste which the department may require by rule, the applicant shall notify each city and county within 1 mile of the facility of the filing of the application and shall publish notice of the filing of the application. The applicant shall publish a second notice of the filing within 14 days after the date of filing. Each notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the facility is located or is proposed to be located. Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 50, for purposes of this section, a "newspaper of general circulation" shall be the newspaper within the county in which the installation or facility is proposed which has the largest daily circulation in that county and has its principal office in that county. If the newspaper with the largest daily circulation has its principal office outside the county, the notice shall appear in both the newspaper with the largest daily circulation in that county, and a newspaper~~

~~authorized to publish legal notices in that county. The notice shall contain:~~

~~(a) The name of the applicant and a brief description of the facility and its location.~~

~~(b) The location of the application file and when it is available for public inspection.~~

~~The notice shall be prepared by the applicant and shall comply with the following format:~~

~~Notice of Application~~

~~The Department of Environmental Protection announces receipt of an application for a permit from (name of applicant) to (brief description of project). This proposed project will be located at (location) in (county) (city).~~

~~This application is being processed and is available for public inspection during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at (name and address of office).~~

~~(10) A permit, which the department may require by rule, for the incineration of biomedical waste, may not be transferred by the permittee to any other entity, except in conformity with the requirements of this subsection.~~

~~(a) Within 30 days after the sale or legal transfer of a permitted facility, the permittee shall file with the department an application for transfer of the permits on such form as the~~

~~department shall establish by rule. The form must be completed with the notarized signatures of both the transferring permittee and the proposed permittee.~~

~~(b) The department shall approve the transfer of a permit unless it determines that the proposed permittee has not provided reasonable assurances that the proposed permittee has the administrative, technical, and financial capability to properly satisfy the requirements and conditions of the permit, as determined by department rule. The determination shall be limited solely to the ability of the proposed permittee to comply with the conditions of the existing permit, and it shall not concern the adequacy of the permit conditions. If the department proposes to deny the transfer, it shall provide both the transferring permittee and the proposed permittee a written objection to such transfer together with notice of a right to request a proceeding on such determination under chapter 120.~~

~~(c) Within 90 days after receiving a properly completed application for transfer of a permit, the department shall issue a final determination. The department may toll the time for making a determination on the transfer by notifying both the transferring permittee and the proposed permittee that additional information is required to adequately review the transfer request. Such notification shall be provided within 30 days after receipt of an application for transfer of the permit, completed pursuant to paragraph (a). If the department fails to take action to approve or deny the transfer within 90 days after receipt of the completed application or within 90 days after receipt of the last item of timely requested additional information, the transfer shall be deemed approved.~~

~~(d) The transferring permittee is encouraged to apply for a permit transfer well in advance of the sale or legal transfer of a permitted facility. However, the transfer of the permit shall not be effective prior to the sale or legal transfer of the facility.~~

~~(e) Until the transfer of the permit is approved by the department, the transferring permittee and any other person constructing, operating, or maintaining the permitted facility shall be liable for compliance with the terms of the permit. Nothing in this section shall relieve the transferring permittee of liability for corrective actions that may be required as a result of any violations occurring prior to the legal transfer of the permit.~~

~~(11) The department shall review all permit applications for any designated Class I solid waste disposal facility. As used in this subsection, the term "designated Class I solid waste disposal facility" means any facility that is, as of May 12, 1993, a solid waste disposal facility classified as an active Class I landfill by the department, that is located in whole or in part within 1,000 feet of the boundary of any municipality, but that is not located within any county with an approved charter or consolidated municipal government, is not located within any municipality, and is not operated by a municipality. The department shall not permit vertical expansion or horizontal expansion of any designated Class I solid waste disposal facility unless the application for such permit was filed before January 1, 1993, and no solid waste management facility may be operated which is a vertical expansion or horizontal expansion of a designated Class I solid waste disposal facility. As used in this~~

~~subsection, the term "vertical expansion" means any activity that will result in an increase in the height of a designated Class I solid waste disposal facility above 100 feet National Geodetic Vertical Datum, except solely for closure, and the term "horizontal expansion" means any activity that will result in an increase in the ground area covered by a designated Class I solid waste disposal facility, or if within 1 mile of a designated Class I solid waste disposal facility, any new or expanded operation of any solid waste disposal facility or area, or of incineration of solid waste, or of storage of solid waste for more than 1 year, or of composting of solid waste other than yard trash.~~

(9) ~~(12)~~ The department shall establish a separate category for solid waste management facilities which accept only construction and demolition debris for disposal or recycling. The department shall establish a reasonable schedule for existing facilities to comply with this section to avoid undue hardship to such facilities. However, a permitted solid waste disposal unit that ~~which~~ receives a significant amount of waste prior to the compliance deadline established in this schedule shall not be required to be retrofitted with liners or leachate control systems. Facilities accepting materials defined in s. 403.703(6)(b) ~~s. 403.703(17)(b)~~ must implement a groundwater monitoring system adequate to detect contaminants that may reasonably be expected to result from such disposal prior to the acceptance of those materials.

(a) The department shall establish reasonable construction, operation, monitoring, recordkeeping, financial assurance, and closure requirements for such facilities. The department shall

take into account the nature of the waste accepted at various facilities when establishing these requirements, and may impose less stringent requirements, including a system of general permits or registration requirements, for facilities that accept only a segregated waste stream which is expected to pose a minimal risk to the environment and public health, such as clean debris. The Legislature recognizes that incidental amounts of other types of solid waste are commonly generated at construction or demolition projects. In any enforcement action taken pursuant to this section, the department shall consider the difficulty of removing these incidental amounts from the waste stream.

(b) The department shall not require liners and leachate collection systems at individual facilities unless it demonstrates, based upon the types of waste received, the methods for controlling types of waste disposed of, the proximity of groundwater and surface water, and the results of the hydrogeological and geotechnical investigations, that the facility is reasonably expected to result in violations of groundwater standards and criteria otherwise.

(c) The owner or operator shall provide financial assurance for closing of the facility in accordance with the requirements of s. 403.7125. The financial assurance shall cover the cost of closing the facility and 5 years of long-term care after closing, unless the department determines, based upon hydrogeologic conditions, the types of wastes received, or the groundwater monitoring results, that a different long-term care period is appropriate. However, unless the owner or operator of the facility is a local government, the escrow account described in s. 403.7125(2) ~~s. 403.7125(3)~~ may not be used as a financial

assurance mechanism.

(d) The department shall establish training requirements for operators of facilities, and shall work with the State University System or other providers to assure that adequate training courses are available. The department shall also assist the Florida Home Builders Association in establishing a component of its continuing education program to address proper handling of construction and demolition debris, including best management practices for reducing contamination of the construction and demolition debris waste stream.

(e) The issuance of a permit under this subsection does not obviate the need to comply with all applicable zoning and land use regulations.

(f) A permit is not required under this section for the disposal of construction and demolition debris on the property where it is generated, but such property must be covered, graded, and vegetated as necessary when disposal is complete.

(g) It is the policy of the Legislature to encourage facilities to recycle. The department shall establish criteria and guidelines that encourage recycling where practical and provide for the use of recycled materials in a manner that protects the public health and the environment. Facilities are authorized to recycle, provided such activities do not conflict with such criteria and guidelines.

(h) The department shall ensure that the requirements of this section are applied and interpreted consistently throughout the state. In accordance with s. 20.255, the Division of Waste Management shall direct the district offices and bureaus on matters relating to the interpretation and applicability of this

section.

(i) The department shall provide notice of receipt of a permit application for the initial construction of a construction and demolition debris disposal facility to the local governments having jurisdiction where the facility is to be located.

(j) The Legislature recognizes that recycling, waste reduction, and resource recovery are important aspects of an integrated solid waste management program and as such are necessary to protect the public health and the environment. If necessary to promote such an integrated program, the county may determine, after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing prior to December 31, 2006 ~~1996~~, that some or all of the wood material described in s. 403.703(6)(b) ~~s. 403.703(17)(b)~~ shall be excluded from the definition of "construction and demolition debris" in s. 403.703(6) ~~s. 403.703(17)~~ within the jurisdiction of such county. The county may make such a determination only if it finds that, prior to June 1, 2006 ~~1996~~, the county has established an adequate method for the use or recycling of such wood material at an existing or proposed solid waste management facility that is permitted or authorized by the department on June 1, 2006 ~~1996~~. The county shall not be required to hold a hearing if the county represents that it previously has held a hearing for such purpose, nor shall the county be required to hold a hearing if the county represents that it previously has held a public meeting or hearing that authorized such method for the use or recycling of trash or other nonputrescible waste materials and if the county further represents that such materials include those materials described in s. 403.703(6)(b) ~~s. 403.703(17)(b)~~. The county shall provide written notice of its

determination to the department by no later than December 31, 2006 ~~1996~~; thereafter, the wood materials described in s. 403.703(6)(b) ~~s. 403.703(17)(b)~~ shall be excluded from the definition of "construction and demolition debris" in s. 403.703(6) ~~s. 403.703(17)~~ within the jurisdiction of such county. The county may withdraw or revoke its determination at any time by providing written notice to the department.

(k) Brazilian pepper and other invasive exotic plant species as designated by the department resulting from eradication projects may be processed at permitted construction and demolition debris recycling facilities or disposed of at permitted construction and demolition debris disposal facilities or Class III facilities. The department may adopt rules to implement this paragraph.

(10) ~~(13)~~ If the department and a local government independently require financial assurance for the closure of a privately owned solid waste management facility, the department and that local government shall enter into an interagency agreement that will allow the owner or operator to provide a single financial mechanism to cover the costs of closure ~~and any required long term care~~. The financial mechanism may provide for the department and local government to be cobeneficiaries or copayees, but shall not impose duplicative financial requirements on the owner or operator. These closure costs must include at least the minimum required by department rules and must also include any additional costs required by local ordinance or regulation.

(11) ~~(14)~~ Before or on the same day of filing with the department of an application for a permit to construct or

substantially modify a solid waste management facility, the applicant shall notify the local government having jurisdiction over the facility of the filing of the application. The applicant also shall publish notice of the filing of the application in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the facility will be located. Notice shall be given and published in accordance with applicable department rules. The department shall not issue the requested permit until the applicant has provided the department with proof that the notices required by this subsection have been given. Issuance of a permit does not relieve an applicant from compliance with local zoning or land use ordinances, or with any other law, rules, or ordinances.

(12) ~~(15)~~ Construction and demolition debris must be separated from the solid waste stream and segregated in separate locations at a solid waste disposal facility or other permitted site.

(13) ~~(16)~~ No facility, solely by virtue of the fact that it uses processed yard trash or clean wood or paper waste as a fuel source, shall be considered to be a solid waste disposal facility.

Section 15. Section 403.7071, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

403.7071 Management of storm-generated debris.--Solid waste generated as a result of a storm event that is the subject of an emergency order issued by the department may be managed as follows:

(1) The Department of Environmental Protection may issue field authorizations for staging areas in those counties affected by a storm event. Such staging areas may be used for the

temporary storage and management of storm-generated debris, including the chipping, grinding, or burning of vegetative debris. Field authorizations may be requested by providing a notice to the local office of the department containing a description of the design and operation of the staging area; the location of the staging area; and the name, address, and telephone number of the site manager. Field authorizations also may be issued by the department staff without prior notice. Written records of all field authorizations shall be created and maintained by department staff. Field authorizations may include specific conditions for the operation and closure of the staging area and shall include a required closure date. A local government shall avoid locating a staging area in wetlands and other surface waters to the greatest extent possible, and the area that is used or affected by a staging area must be fully restored upon cessation of use of the area.

(2) Storm-generated vegetative debris managed at a staging area may be disposed of in a permitted lined or unlined landfill, a permitted land clearing debris facility, or a permitted construction and demolition debris disposal facility. Vegetative debris may also be managed at a permitted waste processing facility or a registered yard trash processing facility.

(3) Construction and demolition debris that is mixed with other storm-generated debris need not be segregated from other solid waste prior to disposal in a lined landfill. Construction and demolition debris that is source-separated or is separated from other hurricane-generated debris at an authorized staging area, or at another area specifically authorized by the department, may be managed at a permitted construction and

demolition debris disposal or recycling facility upon approval by the department of the methods and operational practices used to inspect the waste during segregation.

(4) Unsalvageable refrigerators and freezers containing solid waste, such as rotting food, which may create a sanitary nuisance may be disposed of in a permitted lined landfill; however, chlorofluorocarbons and capacitors must be removed and recycled to the greatest extent practicable using techniques and personnel meeting relevant federal requirements.

(5) Local governments may conduct the burning of storm-generated yard trash and other vegetative debris in air-curtain incinerators without prior notice to the department. Demolition debris may also be burned in air-curtain incinerators if the material is limited to untreated wood. Within 10 days after commencing such burning, the local government shall notify the department in writing describing the general nature of the materials burned; the location and method of burning; and the name, address, and telephone number of the representative of the local government to contact concerning the work. The operator of the air-curtain incinerator is subject to any requirement to obtain an open-burning authorization from the Division of Forestry or any other agency empowered to grant such authorization.

Section 16. Section 403.708, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.708 Prohibition; penalty.--

(1) No person shall:

(a) Place or deposit any solid waste in or on the land or waters located within the state except in a manner approved by

the department and consistent with applicable approved programs of counties or municipalities. However, nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit the disposal of solid waste without a permit as provided in s. 403.707(2).

(b) Burn solid waste except in a manner prescribed by the department and consistent with applicable approved programs of counties or municipalities.

(c) Construct, alter, modify, or operate a solid waste management facility or site without first having obtained from the department any permit required by s. 403.707.

(2) No beverage shall be sold or offered for sale within the state in a beverage container designed and constructed so that the container is opened by detaching a metal ring or tab.

(3) For purposes of subsections (2), (9), and (10):

~~(a) "Degradable," with respect to any material, means that such material, after being discarded, is capable of decomposing to components other than heavy metals or other toxic substances, after exposure to bacteria, light, or outdoor elements.~~

(a) ~~(b)~~ "Beverage" means soda water, carbonated natural or mineral water, or other nonalcoholic carbonated drinks; soft drinks, whether or not carbonated; beer, ale, or other malt drink of whatever alcoholic content; or a mixed wine drink or a mixed spirit drink.

(b) ~~(c)~~ "Beverage container" means an airtight container which at the time of sale contains 1 gallon or less of a beverage, or the metric equivalent of 1 gallon or less, and which is composed of metal, plastic, or glass or a combination thereof.

(4) The Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation may impose a

fine of not more than $100 on any person currently licensed pursuant to s. 561.14 for each violation of the provisions of subsection (2). If the violation is of a continuing nature, each day during which such violation occurs shall constitute a separate and distinct offense and shall be subject to a separate fine.

(5) The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services may impose a fine of not more than $100 on any person not currently licensed pursuant to s. 561.14 for each violation of the provisions of subsection (2). If the violation is of a continuing nature, each day during which such violation occurs shall constitute a separate and distinct offense and shall be subject to a separate fine.

(6) Fifty percent of each fine collected pursuant to subsections (4) and (5) shall be deposited into the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund. The balance of fines collected pursuant to subsection (4) shall be deposited into the Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco Trust Fund for the use of the division for inspection and enforcement of the provisions of this section. The balance of fines collected pursuant to subsection (5) shall be deposited into the General Inspection Trust Fund for the use of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for inspection and enforcement of the provisions of this section.

(7) The Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall coordinate their responsibilities under the provisions of this section to ensure that inspections and enforcement are accomplished in an efficient, cost-effective manner.

(8) A person may not distribute, sell, or expose for sale

in this state any plastic bottle or rigid container intended for single use unless such container has a molded label indicating the plastic resin used to produce the plastic container. The label must appear on or near the bottom of the plastic container product and be clearly visible. This label must consist of a number placed inside a triangle and letters placed below the triangle. The triangle must be equilateral and must be formed by three arrows, and, in the middle of each arrow, there must be a rounded bend that forms one apex of the triangle. The pointer, or arrowhead, of each arrow must be at the midpoint of a side of the triangle, and a short gap must separate each pointer from the base of the adjacent arrow. The three curved arrows that form the triangle must depict a clockwise path around the code number. Plastic bottles of less than 16 ounces, rigid plastic containers of less than 8 ounces, and plastic casings on lead-acid storage batteries are not required to be labeled under this section. The numbers and letters must be as follows:

(a) For polyethylene terephthalate, the letters "PETE" and the number 1.

(b) For high-density polyethylene, the letters "HDPE" and the number 2.

(c) For vinyl, the letter "V" and the number 3.

(d) For low-density polyethylene, the letters "LDPE" and the number 4.

(e) For polypropylene, the letters "PP" and the number 5.

(f) For polystyrene, the letters "PS" and the number 6.

(g) For any other, the letters "OTHER" and the number 7.

(9) No person shall distribute, sell, or expose for sale in this state any product packaged in a container or packing

material manufactured with fully halogenated chlorofluorocarbons (CFC). Producers of containers or packing material manufactured with chlorofluorocarbons (CFC) are urged to introduce alternative packaging materials which are environmentally compatible.

(10) The packaging of products manufactured or sold in the state may not be controlled by governmental rule, regulation, or ordinance adopted after March 1, 1974, other than as expressly provided in this act.

(11) Violations of this part or rules, regulations, permits, or orders issued thereunder by the department and violations of approved local programs of counties or municipalities or rules, regulations, or orders issued thereunder shall be punishable by a civil penalty as provided in s. 403.141.

(12) The department or any county or municipality may also seek to enjoin the violation of, or enforce compliance with, this part or any program adopted hereunder as provided in s. 403.131.

(13) In accordance with the following schedule, no person who knows or who should know of the nature of such solid waste shall dispose of such solid waste in landfills:

(a) Lead-acid batteries~~, after January 1, 1989~~. Lead-acid batteries also may ~~shall~~ not be disposed of in any waste-to-energy facility ~~after January 1, 1989~~. To encourage proper collection and recycling, all persons who sell lead-acid batteries at retail shall accept used lead-acid batteries as trade-ins for new lead-acid batteries.

(b) Used oil~~, after October 1, 1988~~.

(c) Yard trash~~, after January 1, 1992,~~ except in lined ~~unlined~~ landfills classified by department rule as Class I landfills. Yard trash that is source separated from solid waste

may be accepted at a solid waste disposal area where the area provides and maintains separate yard trash composting facilities. The department recognizes that incidental amounts of yard trash may be disposed of in Class I ~~lined~~ landfills. In any enforcement action taken pursuant to this paragraph, the department shall consider the difficulty of removing incidental amounts of yard trash from a mixed solid waste stream.

(d) White goods~~, after January 1, 1990~~.

~~Prior to the effective dates specified in paragraphs (a)-(d), the department shall identify and assist in developing alternative disposal, processing, or recycling options for the solid wastes identified in paragraphs (a)-(d).~~

Section 17. Section 403.709, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.709 Solid Waste Management Trust Fund; use of waste tire fees.--There is created the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund, to be administered by the department.

(1) ~~From~~ The annual revenues deposited in the trust fund, unless otherwise specified in the General Appropriations Act, shall be used for the following purposes:

(a) ~~(1) Up to 40 percent shall be used for~~ Funding solid waste activities of the department and other state agencies, such as providing technical assistance to local governments and the private sector, performing solid waste regulatory and enforcement functions, preparing solid waste documents, and implementing solid waste education programs.

(b) ~~(2) Up to 4.5 percent shall be used for~~ Funding research and training programs relating to solid waste management through

the Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management and other organizations which can reasonably demonstrate the capability to carry out such projects.

(c) ~~(3) Up to 11 percent shall be used for~~ Funding to supplement any other funds provided to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for mosquito control. This distribution shall be annually transferred to the General Inspection Trust Fund in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to be used for mosquito control, especially control of West Nile Virus.

(d) ~~(4) Up to 4.5 percent shall be used for~~ Funding to the Department of Transportation for litter prevention and control programs ~~coordinated by Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc~~.

(e) ~~(5) A minimum of 40 percent shall be used for~~ Funding a competitive and innovative grant program pursuant to s. 403.7095 for activities relating to recycling and reducing the volume of municipal solid waste, including waste tires requiring final disposal.

(2) ~~(6)~~ The department shall recover to the use of the fund from the site owner or the person responsible for the accumulation of tires at the site, jointly and severally, all sums expended from the fund pursuant to this section to manage tires at an illegal waste tire site, except that the department may decline to pursue such recovery if it finds the amount involved too small or the likelihood of recovery too uncertain. If a court determines that the owner is unable or unwilling to comply with the rules adopted pursuant to this section or s. 403.717, the court may authorize the department to take possession and control of the waste tire site in order to protect

the health, safety, and welfare of the community and the environment.

(3) ~~(7)~~ The department may impose a lien on the real property on which the waste tire site is located and the waste tires equal to the estimated cost to bring the tire site into compliance, including attorney's fees and court costs. Any owner whose property has such a lien imposed may release her or his property from any lien claimed under this subsection by filing with the clerk of the circuit court a cash or surety bond, payable to the department in the amount of the estimated cost of bringing the tire site into compliance with department rules, including attorney's fees and court costs, or the value of the property after the abatement action is complete, whichever is less. No lien provided by this subsection shall continue for a period longer than 4 years after the completion of the abatement action unless within that time an action to enforce the lien is commenced in a court of competent jurisdiction. The department may take action to enforce the lien in the same manner used for construction liens under part I of chapter 713.

(4) ~~(8)~~ This section does not limit the use of other remedies available to the department.

Section 18. Subsection (5) of section 403.7095, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.7095 Solid waste management grant program.--

(5) From the funds made available pursuant to s. 403.709(1)(e) ~~s. 403.709(5)~~ for the grant program created by this section, the following distributions shall be made:

(a) Up to 15 percent for the program described in subsection (1);

(b) Up to 35 percent for the program described in subsection (3); and

(c) Up to 50 percent for the program described in subsection (4).

Section 19. Section 403.7125, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.7125 Financial assurance for closure ~~Landfill management escrow account~~.--

~~(1) As used in this section:~~

~~(a) "Landfill" means any solid waste land disposal area for which a permit, other than a general permit, is required by s. 403.707 that receives solid waste for disposal in or upon land other than a land spreading site, injection well, or a surface impoundment.~~

~~(b) "Closure" means the ceasing operation of a landfill and securing such landfill so that it does not pose a significant threat to public health or the environment and includes long-term monitoring and maintenance of a landfill.~~

~~(c) "Owner or operator" means, in addition to the usual meanings of the term, any owner of record of any interest in land whereon a landfill is or has been located and any person or corporation which owns a majority interest in any other corporation which is the owner or operator of a landfill.~~

(1)~~(2)~~ Every owner or operator of a landfill is jointly and severally liable for the improper operation and closure of the landfill, as provided by law. As used in this section, the term "owner or operator" means any owner of record of any interest in land wherein a landfill is or has been located and any person or corporation that owns a majority interest in any other

corporation that is the owner or operator of a landfill.

(2) ~~(3)~~ The owner or operator of a landfill owned or operated by a local or state government or the Federal Government shall establish a fee, or a surcharge on existing fees or other appropriate revenue-producing mechanism, to ensure the availability of financial resources for the proper closure of the landfill. However, the disposal of solid waste by persons on their own property, as described in s. 403.707(2), is exempt from the provisions of this section.

(a) The revenue-producing mechanism must produce revenue at a rate sufficient to generate funds to meet state and federal landfill closure requirements.

(b) The revenue shall be deposited in an interest-bearing escrow account to be held and administered by the owner or operator. The owner or operator shall file with the department an annual audit of the account. The audit shall be conducted by an independent certified public accountant. Failure to collect or report such revenue, except as allowed in subsection (3) ~~(4)~~, is a noncriminal violation punishable by a fine of not more than $5,000 for each offense. The owner or operator may make expenditures from the account and its accumulated interest only for the purpose of landfill closure and, if such expenditures do not deplete the fund to the detriment of eventual closure, for planning and construction of resource recovery or landfill facilities. Any moneys remaining in the account after paying for proper and complete closure, as determined by the department, shall, if the owner or operator does not operate a landfill, be deposited by the owner or operator into the general fund or the appropriate solid waste fund of the local government of

jurisdiction.

(c) The revenue generated under this subsection and any accumulated interest thereon may be applied to the payment of, or pledged as security for, the payment of revenue bonds issued in whole or in part for the purpose of complying with state and federal landfill closure requirements. Such application or pledge may be made directly in the proceedings authorizing such bonds or in an agreement with an insurer of bonds to assure such insurer of additional security therefor.

(d) The provisions of s. 212.055 that relate to raising of revenues for landfill closure or long-term maintenance do not relieve a landfill owner or operator from the obligations of this section.

(e) The owner or operator of any landfill that had established an escrow account in accordance with this section and the conditions of its permit prior to January 1, 2006, may continue to use that escrow account to provide financial assurance for closure of that landfill, even if that landfill is not owned or operated by a local or state government or the Federal Government.

(3) ~~(4)~~ An owner or operator of a landfill owned or operated by a local or state government or by the Federal Government may provide financial assurance to ~~establish proof of financial responsibility with~~ the department in lieu of the requirements of subsection (2) ~~(3)~~. An owner or operator of any other landfill, or any other solid waste management facility designated by department rule, shall provide financial assurance to the department for the closure of the facility. Such financial assurance ~~proof~~ may include surety bonds, certificates of

deposit, securities, letters of credit, or other documents showing that the owner or operator has sufficient financial resources to cover, at a minimum, the costs of complying with applicable ~~landfill~~ closure requirements. The owner or operator shall estimate such costs to the satisfaction of the department.

(4) ~~(5)~~ This section does not repeal, limit, or abrogate any other law authorizing local governments to fix, levy, or charge rates, fees, or charges for the purpose of complying with state and federal landfill closure requirements.

(5) ~~(6)~~ The department shall adopt rules to implement this section.

Section 20. Section 403.716, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.716 Training of operators of solid waste management and other facilities.--

(1) The department shall establish qualifications for, and encourage the development of training programs for, operators of landfills, coordinators of local recycling programs, ~~operators of waste to energy facilities, biomedical waste incinerators, and mobile soil thermal treatment units or facilities,~~ and operators of other solid waste management facilities.

(2) The department shall work with accredited community colleges, career centers, state universities, and private institutions in developing educational materials, courses of study, and other such information to be made available for persons seeking to be trained as operators of solid waste management facilities.

(3) A person may not perform the duties of an operator of a landfill~~, or perform the duties of an operator of a waste to~~

~~energy facility, biomedical waste incinerator, or mobile soil thermal treatment unit or facility,~~ unless she or he has completed an operator training course approved by the department or she or he has qualified as an interim operator in compliance with requirements established by the department by rule. An owner of a landfill~~, waste-to-energy facility, biomedical waste incinerator, or mobile soil thermal treatment unit or facility~~ may not employ any person to perform the duties of an operator unless such person has completed an approved landfill~~, waste-to-energy facility, biomedical waste incinerator, or mobile soil thermal treatment unit or facility~~ operator training course, as appropriate, or has qualified as an interim operator in compliance with requirements established by the department by rule. The department may establish by rule operator training requirements for other solid waste management facilities and facility operators.

(4) The department has authority to adopt minimum standards and other rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this section. The department shall ensure the safe, healthy, and lawful operation of solid waste management facilities in this state. The department may establish by rule various classifications for operators to cover the need for differing levels of training required to operate various types of solid waste management facilities due to different operating requirements at such facilities.

(5) For purposes of this section, the term "operator" means any person, including the owner, who is principally engaged in, and is in charge of, the actual operation, supervision, and maintenance of a solid waste management facility and includes the

person in charge of a shift or period of operation during any part of the day.

Section 21. Section 403.717, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.717 Waste tire and lead-acid battery requirements.--

(1) For purposes of this section and ss. 403.718 and 403.7185:

(a) "Department" means the Department of Environmental Protection.

(b) "Motor vehicle" means an automobile, motorcycle, truck, trailer, semitrailer, truck tractor and semitrailer combination, or any other vehicle operated in this state, used to transport persons or property and propelled by power other than muscular power, but the term does not include traction engines, road rollers, such vehicles as run only upon a track, bicycles, mopeds, or farm tractors and trailers.

(c) "Tire" means a continuous solid or pneumatic rubber covering encircling the wheel of a motor vehicle.

(d) "Waste tire" means a tire that has been removed from a motor vehicle and has not been retreaded or regrooved. "Waste tire" includes, but is not limited to, used tires and processed tires. <u>The term does not include solid rubber tires and tires that are inseparable from the rim.</u>

(e) "Waste tire collection center" means a site where waste tires are collected from the public prior to being offered for recycling and where fewer than 1,500 tires are kept on the site on any given day.

(f) "Waste tire processing facility" means a site where equipment is used to <u>treat waste tires mechanically, chemically,</u>

or thermally so that the resulting material is a marketable product or is suitable for proper disposal ~~recapture reusable byproducts from waste tires or to cut, burn, or otherwise alter waste tires so that they are no longer whole~~. The term includes mobile waste tire processing equipment.

(g) "Waste tire site" means a site at which 1,500 or more waste tires are accumulated.

(h) "Lead-acid battery" means a ~~those~~ lead-acid battery ~~batteries~~ designed for use in motor vehicles, vessels, and aircraft, and includes such batteries when sold new as a component part of a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft, but not when sold to recycle components.

(i) "Indoor" means within a structure that ~~which~~ excludes rain and public access and would control air flows in the event of a fire.

(j) "Processed tire" means a tire that has been treated mechanically, chemically, or thermally so that the resulting material is a marketable product or is suitable for proper disposal.

(k) "Used tire" means a waste tire which has a minimum tread depth of 3/32 inch or greater and is suitable for use on a motor vehicle.

(2) The owner or operator of any waste tire site shall provide the department with information concerning the site's location, size, and the approximate number of waste tires that are accumulated at the site and shall initiate steps to comply with subsection (3).

(3)(a) A person may not maintain a waste tire site unless such site is:

1. An integral part of the person's permitted waste tire processing facility; or

2. Used for the storage of waste tires prior to processing and is located at a permitted solid waste management facility.

(b) It is unlawful for any person to dispose of waste tires or processed tires in the state except at a permitted solid waste management facility. Collection or storage of waste tires at a permitted waste tire processing facility or waste tire collection center prior to processing or use does not constitute disposal, provided that the collection and storage complies with rules established by the department.

(c) Whole waste tires may not be deposited in a landfill as a method of ultimate disposal.

(d) A person may not contract with a waste tire collector for the transportation, disposal, or processing of waste tires unless the collector is registered with the department or exempt from requirements provided under this section. Any person who contracts with a waste tire collector for the transportation of more than 25 waste tires per month from a single business location must maintain records for that location and make them available for review by the department or by law enforcement officers, which records must contain the date when the tires were transported, the quantity of tires, the registration number of the collector, and the name of the driver.

(4) The department shall adopt rules to carry out the provisions of this section and s. 403.718. Such rules shall:

(a) Provide for the administration or revocation of waste tire processing facility permits, including mobile processor permits;

(b) Provide for the administration or revocation of waste tire collector registrations, the fees for which may not exceed $50 per vehicle registered annually;

(c) Provide for the administration or revocation of waste tire collection center permits, the fee for which may not exceed $250 annually;

(d) Set standards, including financial assurance standards, for waste tire processing facilities and associated waste tire sites, waste tire collection centers, waste tire collectors, and for the storage of waste tires and processed tires, including storage indoors;

(e) The department may by rule exempt not-for-hire waste tire collectors and processing facilities from financial assurance requirements;

(f) Authorize the final disposal of waste tires at a permitted solid waste disposal facility provided the tires have been cut into sufficiently small parts to assure their proper disposal; and

(g) Allow waste tire material which has been cut into sufficiently small parts to be used as daily cover material for a landfill.

~~(5) A permit is not required for tire storage at:~~

~~(a) A tire retreading business where fewer than 1,500 waste tires are kept on the business premises;~~

~~(b) A business that, in the ordinary course of business, removes tires from motor vehicles if fewer than 1,500 of these tires are kept on the business premises; or~~

~~(c) A retail tire selling business which is serving as a waste tire collection center if fewer than 1,500 waste tires are~~

~~kept on the business premises.~~

(5) ~~(6)~~ (a) The department shall encourage the voluntary establishment of waste tire collection centers at retail tire-selling businesses, waste tire processing facilities, and solid waste disposal facilities, to be open to the public for the deposit of waste tires.

(b) The department is authorized to establish an incentives program for individuals to encourage them to return their waste tires to a waste tire collection center. The incentives used by the department may involve the use of discount or prize coupons, prize drawings, promotional giveaways, or other activities the department determines will promote collection, reuse, volume reduction, and proper disposal of waste tires.

(c) The department may contract with a promotion company to administer the incentives program.

Section 22. Section 403.7221, Florida Statutes, is transferred, renumbered as section 403.70715, Florida Statutes, and amended to read:

403.70715 ~~403.7221~~ Research, development, and demonstration permits.--

(1) The department may issue a research, development, and demonstration permit to the owner or operator of any solid waste management facility, including any hazardous waste management facility, who proposes to utilize an innovative and experimental solid waste treatment technology or process for which permit standards have not been promulgated. Permits shall:

(a) Provide for construction and operation of the facility for not longer than 3 years ~~1 year~~, renewable no more than 3 times.

(b) Provide for the receipt and treatment by the facility of only those types and quantities of solid waste which the department deems necessary for purposes of determining the performance capabilities of the technology or process and the effects of such technology or process on human health and the environment.

(c) Include requirements the department deems necessary which may include monitoring, operation, testing, financial responsibility, closure, and remedial action.

(2) The department may apply the criteria set forth in this section in establishing the conditions of each permit without separate establishment of rules implementing such criteria.

(3) For the purpose of expediting review and issuance of permits under this section, the department may, consistent with the protection of human health and the environment, modify or waive permit application and permit issuance requirements, except that there shall be no modification or waiver of regulations regarding financial responsibility or of procedures established regarding public participation.

(4) The department may order an immediate termination of all operations at the facility at any time upon a determination that termination is necessary to protect human health and the environment.

Section 23. Subsection (2) of section 403.201, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.201 Variances.--

(2) No variance shall be granted from any provision or requirement concerning discharges of waste into waters of the state or hazardous waste management which would result in the

provision or requirement being less stringent than a comparable federal provision or requirement, except as provided in s. 403.70715 ~~s. 403.7221~~.

Section 24. Section 403.722, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.722 Permits; hazardous waste disposal, storage, and treatment facilities.--

(1) Each person who intends to or is required to construct, modify, operate, or close a hazardous waste disposal, storage, or treatment facility shall obtain a construction permit, operation permit, postclosure permit, clean closure plan approval, or corrective action permit from the department prior to constructing, modifying, operating, or closing the facility. By rule, the department may provide for the issuance of a single permit instead of any two or more hazardous waste facility permits.

(2) Any owner or operator of a hazardous waste facility in operation on the effective date of the department rule listing and identifying hazardous wastes shall file an application for a temporary operation permit within 6 months after the effective date of such rule. The department, upon receipt of a properly completed application, shall identify any department rules which are being violated by the facility and shall establish a compliance schedule. However, if the department determines that an imminent hazard exists, the department may take any necessary action pursuant to s. 403.726 to abate the hazard. The department shall issue a temporary operation permit to such facility within the time constraints of s. 120.60 upon submission of a properly completed application which is in conformance with this

subsection. Temporary operation permits for such facilities shall be issued for up to 3 years only. Upon termination of the temporary operation permit and upon proper application by the facility owner or operator, the department shall issue an operation permit for such existing facilities if the applicant has corrected all of the deficiencies identified in the temporary operation permit and is in compliance with all other rules adopted pursuant to this act.

(3) ~~Permit~~ Applicants shall provide any information that ~~which~~ will enable the department to determine that the proposed construction, modification, operation, ~~or~~ closure, or corrective action will comply with this act and any applicable rules. In no instance shall any person construct, modify, operate, or close a facility or perform corrective actions at a facility in contravention of the standards, requirements, or criteria for a hazardous waste facility. Authorizations ~~Permits~~ issued under this section may include any permit conditions necessary to achieve compliance with applicable hazardous waste rules and necessary to protect human health and the environment.

(4) The department may require, in an ~~a permit~~ application, submission of information concerning matters specified in s. 403.721(6) as well as information respecting:

(a) Estimates of the composition, quantity, and concentration of any hazardous waste identified or listed under this act or combinations of any such waste and any other solid waste~~,~~ proposed to be disposed of, treated, transported, or stored and the time, frequency, or rate at which such waste is proposed to be disposed of, treated, transported, or stored; and

(b) The site to which such hazardous waste or the products

of treatment of such hazardous waste will be transported and at which it will be disposed of, treated, or stored.

(5) An authorization ~~A permit~~ issued pursuant to this section is not a vested right. The department may revoke or modify any such authorization ~~permit~~.

(a) Authorizations ~~Permits~~ may be revoked for failure of the holder to comply with the provisions of this act, the terms of the authorization ~~permit~~, the standards, requirements, or criteria adopted pursuant to this act, or an order of the department; for refusal by the holder to allow lawful inspection; for submission by the holder of false or inaccurate information in the permit application; or if necessary to protect the public health or the environment.

(b) Authorizations ~~Permits~~ may be modified, upon request of the holder ~~permittee~~, if such modification is not in violation of this act or department rules or if the department finds the modification necessary to enable the facility to remain in compliance with this act and department rules.

(c) An owner or operator of a hazardous waste facility in existence on the effective date of a department rule changing an exemption or listing and identifying the hazardous wastes that ~~which~~ require that facility to be permitted who notifies the department pursuant to s. 403.72, and who has applied for a permit pursuant to subsection (2), may continue to operate until ~~be~~ issued a temporary operation permit. If such owner or operator intends to or is required to discontinue operation, the temporary operation permit must include final closure conditions.

(6) A hazardous waste facility permit issued pursuant to this section shall satisfy the permit requirements of s.

403.707(1). The permit exemptions provided in s. 403.707(2) shall not apply to hazardous waste.

(7) The department may establish ~~permit~~ application procedures for hazardous waste facilities, which procedures may vary based on differences in amounts, types, and concentrations of hazardous waste and on differences in the size and location of facilities and which procedures may take into account permitting procedures of other laws not in conflict with this act.

(8) For authorizations ~~permits~~ required by this section, the department may require that a fee be paid and may establish, by rule, a fee schedule based on the degree of hazard and the amount and type of hazardous waste disposed of, stored, or treated at the facility.

(9) It shall not be a requirement for the issuance of ~~such~~ a hazardous waste authorization ~~permit~~ that the facility complies with an adopted local government comprehensive plan, local land use ordinances, zoning ordinances or regulations, or other local ordinances. However, such an authorization ~~a permit~~ issued by the department shall not override adopted local government comprehensive plans, local land use ordinances, zoning ordinances or regulations, or other local ordinances.

(10) Notwithstanding ss. 120.60(1) and 403.815:

(a) The time specified by law for permit review shall be tolled by the request of the department for publication of notice of proposed agency action to issue a permit for a hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facility and shall resume 45 days after receipt by the department of proof of publication. If, within 45 days after publication of the notice of the proposed agency action, the department receives written notice of

opposition to the intention of the agency to issue such permit and receives a request for a hearing, the department shall provide for a hearing pursuant to ss. 120.569 and 120.57, if requested by a substantially affected party, or an informal public meeting, if requested by any other person. The failure to request a hearing within 45 days after publication of the notice of the proposed agency action constitutes a waiver of the right to a hearing under ss. 120.569 and 120.57. The permit review time period shall continue to be tolled until the completion of such hearing or meeting and shall resume within 15 days after conclusion of a public hearing held on the application or within 45 days after the recommended order is submitted to the agency and the parties, whichever is later.

(b) Within 60 days after receipt of an application for a hazardous waste facility permit, the department shall examine the application, notify the applicant of any apparent errors or omissions, and request any additional information the department is permitted by law to require. The failure to correct an error or omission or to supply additional information shall not be grounds for denial of the permit unless the department timely notified the applicant within the 60-day period, except that this paragraph does not prevent the department from denying an application if the department does not possess sufficient information to ensure that the facility is in compliance with applicable statutes and rules.

(c) The department shall approve or deny each hazardous waste facility permit within 135 days after receipt of the original application or after receipt of the requested additional information or correction of errors or omissions. However, the

failure of the department to approve or deny within the 135-day time period does not result in the automatic approval or denial of the permit and does not prevent the inclusion of specific permit conditions which are necessary to ensure compliance with applicable statutes and rules. If the department fails to approve or deny the permit within the 135-day period, the applicant may petition for a writ of mandamus to compel the department to act consistently with applicable regulatory requirements.

(11) Hazardous waste facility operation permits shall be issued for no more than 5 years.

(12) On the same day of filing with the department of an application for a permit for the construction modification, or operation of a hazardous waste facility, the applicant shall notify each city and county within 1 mile of the facility of the filing of the application and shall publish notice of the filing of the application. The applicant shall publish a second notice of the filing within 14 days after the date of filing. Each notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the facility is located or is proposed to be located. Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 50, for purposes of this section, a "newspaper of general circulation" shall be the newspaper within the county in which the installation or facility is proposed which has the largest daily circulation in that county and has its principal office in that county. If the newspaper with the largest daily circulation has its principal office outside the county, the notice shall appear in both the newspaper with the largest daily circulation in that county, and a newspaper authorized to publish legal notices in that county. The notice shall contain:

(a) The name of the applicant and a brief description of the project and its location.

(b) The location of the application file and when it is available for public inspection.

The notice shall be prepared by the applicant and shall comply with the following format:

Notice of Application

The Department of Environmental Protection announces receipt of an application for a permit from (name of applicant) to (brief description of project). This proposed project will be located at (location) in (county) (city).

This application is being processed and is available for public inspection during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at (name and address of office).

(13) A permit for the construction, modification, or operation of a hazardous waste facility which initially was issued under authority of this section, may not be transferred by the permittee to any other entity, except in conformity with the requirements of this subsection.

(a) At least 30 days prior to the sale or legal transfer of a permitted facility, the permittee shall file with the department an application for transfer of the permits on such form as the department shall establish by rule. The form must be

completed with the notarized signatures of both the transferring permittee and the proposed permittee.

(b) The department shall approve the transfer of a permit unless it determines that the proposed permittee has not provided reasonable assurances that the proposed permittee has the administrative, technical, and financial capability to properly satisfy the requirements and conditions of the permit, as determined by department rule. The determination shall be limited solely to the ability of the proposed permittee to comply with the conditions of the existing permit, and it shall not concern the adequacy of the permit conditions. If the department proposes to deny the transfer, it shall provide both the transferring permittee and the proposed permittee a written objection to such transfer together with notice of a right to request a proceeding on such determination under chapter 120.

(c) Within 90 days after receiving a properly completed application for transfer of permit, the department shall issue a final determination. The department may toll the time for making a determination on the transfer by notifying both the transferring permittee and the proposed permittee that additional information is required to adequately review the transfer request. Such notification shall be served within 30 days after receipt of an application for transfer of permit, completed pursuant to paragraph (a). However, the failure of the department to approve or deny within the 90-day time period does not result in the automatic approval or denial of the transfer. If the department fails to approve or deny the transfer within the 90-day period, the applicant may petition for a writ of mandamus to compel the department to act consistently with applicable

regulatory requirements.

(d) The transferring permittee is encouraged to apply for a permit transfer well in advance of the sale or legal transfer of a permitted facility. However, the transfer or the permit shall not be effective prior to the sale or legal transfer of the facility.

(e) Until the transfer of the permit is approved by the department, the transferring permittee and any other person constructing, operating, or maintaining the permitted facility shall be liable for compliance with the terms of the permit. Nothing in this section shall relieve the transferring permittee of liability for corrective actions that may be required as a result of any violations occurring prior to the legal transfer of the permit.

Section 25. Subsection (2) of section 403.7226, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.7226 Technical assistance by the department.--The department shall:

(2) Identify short-term needs and long-term needs for hazardous waste management for the state on the basis of the information gathered through the local hazardous waste management assessments and other information from state and federal regulatory agencies and sources. The state needs assessment must be ongoing and must be updated when new data concerning waste generation and waste management technologies become available. ~~The department shall annually send a copy of this assessment to the Governor and to the Legislature.~~

Section 26. Subsection (3) of section 403.724, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.724 Financial responsibility.--

(3) The amount of financial responsibility required shall be approved by the department upon each issuance, renewal, or modification of a hazardous waste facility authorization ~~permit~~. Such factors as inflation rates and changes in operation may be considered when approving financial responsibility for the duration of the authorization ~~permit~~. The Office of Insurance Regulation of the Department of Financial Services ~~Commission~~ shall be available to assist the department in making this determination. In approving or modifying the amount of financial responsibility, the department shall consider:

(a) The amount and type of hazardous waste involved;

(b) The probable damage to human health and the environment;

(c) The danger and probable damage to private and public property near the facility;

(d) The probable time that the hazardous waste and facility involved will endanger the public health, safety, and welfare or the environment; and

(e) The probable costs of properly closing the facility and performing corrective action.

Section 27. Section 403.7255, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.7255 Placement of signs ~~Department to adopt rules~~.--

(1) ~~The department shall adopt rules which establish requirements and procedures for the placement of~~ Signs must be placed by the owner or operator at ~~sites which may have been contaminated by hazardous wastes. Sites shall include~~ any site in the state which ~~that~~ is listed or proposed for listing on the

Superfund Site List of the United States Environmental Protection Agency or any site identified by the department as a ~~suspected or confirmed contaminated~~ site contaminated by hazardous waste where there is ~~may be~~ a risk of exposure to the public. The requirements of this section shall not apply to sites reported under ss. 376.3071 and 376.3072. The department shall establish requirements and procedures for the placement of signs, and may do so in rules, permits, orders, or other authorizations. The authorization ~~rules~~ shall establish the appropriate size for such signs, which size shall be no smaller than 2 feet by 2 feet, and shall provide in clearly legible print appropriate warning language for the waste or other materials at the site and a telephone number which may be called for further information.

(2) Violations of this act are punishable as provided in s. 403.161(4).

(3) The provisions of this act are independent of and cumulative to any other requirements and remedies in this chapter or chapter 376, or any rules promulgated thereunder.

Section 28. Subsection (5) of section 403.726, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.726 Abatement of imminent hazard caused by hazardous substance.--

(5) The department may issue a permit or order requiring prompt abatement of an imminent hazard.

Section 29. Subsection (8) of section 403.7265, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.7265 Local hazardous waste collection program.--

(8) The department has the authority to establish an additional local project grant program enabling a local hazardous

waste collection center grantee to receive funding for unique projects that improve the collection and lower the incidence of improper management of conditionally exempt or household hazardous waste. Eligible local governments may receive up to $50,000 in grant funds for these unique and innovative projects, provided they match 25 percent of the grant amount. If the department finds that the project has statewide applicability and immediate benefits to other local hazardous waste collection programs in the state, matching funds are not required. This grant will not count toward the $100,000 maximum grant amount for development of a collection center.

Section 30. Sections 403.7075, 403.756, 403.78, 403.781, 403.782, 403.783, 403.784, 403.7841, 403.7842, 403.785, 403.786, 403.787, 403.7871, 403.7872, 403.7873, 403.788, 403.7881, 403.789, 403.7891, 403.7892, 403.7893, and 403.7895, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

Section 31. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

Committee on Environmental Regulation

Wednesday, March 15, 2006
2:30 – 5:30 PM
212 Knott

Addendum A (03.14.06, 2:00 p.m.)

Allan G. Bense
Speaker

Mitch Needelman
Chair

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: PCB ENVR 06-05 Solid Waste
SPONSOR(S): Environmental Regulation Committee
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
Orig. Comm.: Environmental Regulation Committee		Kliner	Kliner
1)			
2)			
3)			
4)			
5)			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The bill makes a number of technical amendments to correct cross-references, delete certain obsolete provisions and dates from the solid waste management statutes, and addresses other issues which have arisen since the last major rewrite of the Solid Waste Management Act (SWMA). For instance, the bill:

- Deletes obsolete definitions, and alphabetizes and consolidates remaining definitions
- Deletes obsolete language relating to Class II landfills and compost standards
- Clarifies the circumstances under which industrial byproducts are not regulated under the SWMA
- Deletes provisions relating to biomedical incinerators
- Provides for the management of storm-generated debris.

The bill also proposes numerous amendments relating to the regulation of hazardous waste, for instance:

- Extends the duration of certain solid and hazardous waste research, development, and demonstration permits
- Deletes a requirement for a separate report on hazardous waste management
- Authorizes the DEP to issue authorizations which include both permits and clean closure orders for hazardous waste facilities
- Clarifies the provisions relating to the posting of signs on certain properties contaminated by hazardous wastes
- Allows the DEP to issue orders requiring the prompt abatement of an imminent hazard caused by a hazardous substance
- Reduces the local match requirement for local governments in order to receive certain hazardous waste collection grants, and provides exceptions from the match requirement.

See Part I.B., EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES, for a complete list of changes proposed by the bill.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

Limited Government: The Department of Environmental Protection will not longer be required to submit separate reports regarding hazardous waste management and used oil. This information will be consolidated in the department's Solid Waste Management in Florida report, thereby potentially saving personnel time and publication costs.

In order to be eligible to receive a hazardous waste collection grant, local governments currently must match the entire grant amount. This bill reduces the match requirement to 25 percent of the grant amount, and allows the match to be waived under certain circumstances. This may permit more local governments to take advantage of this grant program.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Current Situation

The Solid Waste Management Act (SWMA) was enacted in 1988 to provide comprehensive programs to promote recycling and reduce the volume of materials going to landfills. The SWMA mandated waste minimization, conservation of landfill space, litter control, and recycling and required the involvement and cooperation of Florida's residents, businesses, and visitors. Several state agencies were given responsibilities under SWMA with the Department of Environmental Regulation having the lead responsibility for developing the state program, adopting all regulations and standards, permitting facilities, and managing biohazardous waste.

A major provision of the SWMA required all counties to initiate recycling programs to separate and offer for recycling a majority of aluminum cans, glass, newspaper, and plastic bottles.

As part of their recycling programs, local governments were encouraged to separate all plastics, metals, and all grades of paper for recycling prior to final disposal and were also encouraged to recycle yard trash and other mechanically treated solid waste into compost available for agricultural and other acceptable uses.

Counties were required to achieve a waste reduction goal of 30 percent by 1994. No more than one-half of the goal could be met with yard trash, white goods (primarily discarded appliances), construction and demolition (C&D) debris, and tires. The goal could be modified or reduced for any county that demonstrated it would have an adverse impact on the financial obligations of the county regarding waste to energy facilities (WTE).

To assist the counties in their recycling efforts, the SWMA established certain grant programs. The types of grants available included small county grants, recycling and education grants, waste tire grants, and litter and marine debris prevention grants.

The SWMA also provided for a waste newsprint fee, a waste tire fee, and the implementation of an advance disposal fee if certain recycling conditions were not met.

The Solid Waste Management Trust Fund (SWMTF) was created to fund solid waste management activities

In 1993, the SWMA was significantly rewritten to update and refine the act. Major features of this rewrite included:

- Creating the Recycling Markets Advisory Committee in the Department of Commerce.[1]
- Providing significant new provisions relating to the advance disposal fee and statewide litter program. Initially, the advanced disposal fee was 1 cent per container with an increase to 2 cents on January 1, 1995. The estimated proceeds of the fee ($22 million) were deposited into the SWMTF to be used to supplement recycling grants, Surface Water Improvement and Management or SWIM program, Sewage Treatment Revolving Loan, and Small Community Sewer Construction Assistance. The advance disposal fee and the waste newsprint fee provisions expired on October 1, 1995, as provided in ch. 88-130, Laws of Florida.
- Providing new requirements for permitting WTE facilities and commercial hazardous waste incinerators in the state. No commercial hazardous waste incinerator may be permitted or certified in the state without a certificate of need, issued by the Governor and Cabinet, sitting as the Statewide Multipurpose Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Board.
- Establishing the Florida Packaging Council and creating a comprehensive litter and marine debris control and prevention program.
- Providing assistance to smaller counties to aid in meeting their waste reduction and recycling responsibilities.
- Providing for the ownership of solid waste and flow control.
- Providing for the disposal of certain batteries.
- Allowing the SWMTF to be used to fund projects relating to market development for recycled materials.
- Allowing counties of less than 50,000 to be eligible for annual solid waste grants of $50,000.

Another significant revision to the SWMA occurred in 1996 when the provisions relating to construction and demolition (C&D) debris were substantially revised. These provisions included requiring the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to establish a separate category for solid waste management facilities which accept only C&D debris for disposal or recycling; and providing that the DEP may not require liners and leachate collection systems at individual facilities unless it demonstrates that the facility is reasonably expected to result in violations of ground water standards. A permit is not required for disposal of C&D debris on the property where it is generated, but such property must be covered, graded, and vegetated as necessary when disposal is complete.

For several years, approximately $30 million was appropriated annually from the SWMTF and used for water quality and restoration projects. As a result, the Legislature in 2002 provided for the permanent reallocation of the sales tax proceeds that were being deposited into the SWMTF. These funds (approximately $30 M annually) are now deposited into the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund to be used for water quality improvement and water restoration projects. The SWMTF is now funded almost exclusively from the waste disposal fees imposed on tires purchased at retail. This fee generates approximately $19 million annually and supports not only the grants program, but also the general solid waste activities of the Division of Waste Management.

Also, the counties are no longer required to annually submit to the DEP certain solid waste and recycling information. Instead, the DEP may periodically seek the information from the counties to evaluate and report on the success of meeting the solid waste reduction goal.

Counties must still implement a recyclable materials recycling program; however, the counties are no longer required to recover a majority of the minimum five. Instead, they are encouraged to recover a significant portion of at least four of the following materials: newspaper, aluminum cans, steel cans, glass, plastic bottles, cardboard, office paper, and yard trash.

The 2002 revisions to the SWMA also:

[1] The Department of Commerce was abolished in 1996 pursuant to ch. 96-320, L.O.F.

- Deleted specific language regarding the amount of C&D debris, yard trash, white goods, and tires that may be considered when determining the 30 percent waste reduction goal.
- Redefined "small county" from 75,000 to 100,000 for purposes of providing an opportunity to recycle in lieu of achieving the 30-percent goal.
- Required C&D debris to be separated from the solid waste stream in separate locations at a solid waste disposal facility or other permitted site.
- Refocused the purposes of the SWMTF toward the core solid waste management responsibilities of the DEP and created a new competitive and innovative solid waste management grant program. It also maintained funding for the mosquito control activities in Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS).
- Redistributed the funds in the SWMTF
    - Up to 40 percent for funding solid waste activities of the DEP and other state agencies.
    - Up to 4.5 percent for funding research and training programs relating to solid waste management through the Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management.
    - Up to 11 percent to DACS for mosquito control.
    - A minimum of 40 percent for funding a competitive and innovative grant program relating to recycling and reducing the volume of municipal solid waste, including waste tires requiring final disposal.

- Provided for the distribution of the available solid waste management grants funds:
    - Up to 15 percent for the competitive and innovative grant program.
    - Up to 35 percent for the consolidated grant program for small counties.
    - Up to 50 percent for the waste tire program.

- Directed DEP to use the $30 million annually transferred from the sales tax proceeds to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration TF for projects to improve water quality and restore lakes and rivers impacted by pollution. At least 20 percent of the funds available are to be used for projects that assist financially disadvantaged small local governments.

The most recent revisions to the SWMA were made in 2005 and included the following:

- Prior to the construction of a new WTE facility or the expansion of an existing WTE, the county must implement and maintain a solid waste management and recycling program designed to meet the 30 percent waste reduction goal. If a WTE is built in a county with a population of less than 100,000 that county would have to have a program designed to achieve the 30 percent waste reduction goal, and not just provide the opportunity to recycle.
- Local government applicants for a permit to construct or expand a Class I landfill are encouraged to consider the construction of a WTE facility as an alternative to additional landfill space.
- Clarified that local governmental entities are required to pay the waste tire fee and the lead-acid battery fee.
- Increased the penalty for a litter violation from $50 to $100. The $50 increase is to be deposited into the SWMTF to be used for the solid waste management grant program.
- Provided for a pilot project to encourage the reuse or recycling of campaign signs. The recovered campaign signs are to be made available to schools and other entities that may have a use for them, at no cost.

The last time the Solid Waste Management Act was substantially rewritten was in 1993. Although there have been several amendments to the statutory provisions since that time, these amendments have been piecemeal and the issues have not been addressed in a comprehensive manner. In the past few years, issues have arisen regarding recycling and disposal of vegetative and construction and

demolition debris. This problem has been exacerbated by the fact that Florida was hit with four major hurricanes in 2004 and by Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, and Wilma in 2005.

The solid waste provisions in the statutes contain several provisions that need to updated to delete obsolete provisions and dates that have expired. Some provisions have never been used and certain provisions are no longer needed.

The Senate Environmental Preservation Committee was assigned an interim project to review the Solid Waste Management Act and make recommendations to the Legislature to update the act and make recommendations to address issues that have recently arisen.

Effect of Proposed Changes

This bill would implement the recommendations of the Senate Environmental Preservation Committee's interim report no. 2006-121, Review of the Solid Waste Management Act. The bill makes a number of technical amendments to correct cross-references, delete certain obsolete provisions and dates from the solid waste management statutes, and address other issues which have arisen since the last major rewrite of the Solid Waste Management Act. Specifically, the bill:

- Deletes the provisions relating to Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc., and transfers the Wildflower Advisory Council that was created within Keep Florida Beautiful to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS). Provides that the use fees from the sale of the Wildflower license, and transfers the unexpended proceeds from the Wildflower license plates which are held by Keep Florida Beautiful to the DACS.
- Places the Adopt-a-Shore Program that was created within Keep Florida Beautiful in the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).
- Alphabetizes the definitions used in the Solid Waste Management Act. Deletes obsolete definitions and consolidates definitions that are found elsewhere in the act.
- Deletes obsolete language relating to Class II landfills and compost standards.
- Clarifies the circumstances under which industrial byproducts are not regulated under the Solid Waste Management Act.
- Deletes provisions relating to biomedical incinerators.
- Provides for the management of storm-generated debris.
- Deletes the specific percentage allocations for the use of the funds in the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund.
- Places time restrictions on certain liens imposed by the DEP.
- Provides that escrow accounts may only be used by government-owned solid waste facilities to meet the financial requirements for closure. Provides for grandfathering of certain facilities.
- Deletes the provisions relating to the training of operators for waste-to-energy facilities, biomedical waste incinerators, and mobile soil thermal treatment units or facilities.
- Revises the definition of "waste tire" and "waste tire processing facility."
- Exempts certain tire businesses from having to obtain a tire storage permit.
- Extends the duration of certain solid and hazardous waste research, development, and demonstration permits.
- Deletes a requirement for a separate report on hazardous waste management.
- Authorizes the DEP to issue authorizations which include both permits and clean closure orders for hazardous waste facilities.
- Clarifies the provisions relating to the posting of signs on certain properties contaminated by hazardous wastes.
- Allows the DEP to issue orders requiring the prompt abatement of an imminent hazard caused by a hazardous substance.
- Reduces the local match requirement for local governments in order to receive certain hazardous waste collection grants, and provides exceptions from the match requirement.
- Repeals a provision relating to the submission of certain solid waste facility construction and operation plans.

- Repeals the requirement for a separate used oil report.
- Repeals the provisions relating to the Multipurpose Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Act.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

This bill would implement the recommendations of the Senate Environmental Preservation Committee's interim report no. 2006-121, Review of the Solid Waste Management Act. The bill makes a number of technical amendments to correct cross-references, delete certain obsolete provisions and dates from the solid waste management statutes, and address other issues which have arisen since the last major rewrite of the Solid Waste Management Act.

Section 1. Section 403.413, F.S., is amended to clarify who is liable for dumping under the litter law.

Section 2. Section 403.4131, F.S., is amended to delete the statutory provisions relating to Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc. The Wildflower Advisory Council that was created within Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc. is recreated within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS). The Council membership is increased from nine members to ten members to include a representative of the DACS. The Council will be advisory to the DACS and shall develop procedures of operation, research contracts, educational and marketing programs, and wildflower planting grants for Florida native wildflowers, plants, and grasses. The Council shall also make recommendations to the DACS concerning what constitutes acceptable species of wildflowers and other plants supported by these programs.

Section 3. Section 403.41315, F.S., is amended to conform to the changes in s. 403.4135, F.S., relating to Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc.

Section 4. Section 403.4133, F.S., is amended to place the Adopt-a-Shore Program that was created within Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc. in the Department of Environmental Protection.

Section 5. Section 320.08058, F.S., is amended to provide that the annual use fees from the sale of the Wildflower license plates shall now be distributed to the DACS.

Section 6. All unexpended proceeds of the fees paid for the Wildflower license plates which are held by Keep Florida Beautiful, Inc. must be transferred to the DACS promptly after the effective date of this act.

Section 7. Section 403.703, F.S., is amended to place the definitions used in the Solid Waste Management Act in alphabetical order. In addition, the following definitions are also amended: "clean debris", "closure", and "yard trash." The following definitions are deleted: "biomedical waste generator" and "palletized paper waste"; and the definition of "landfill" is moved from s. 403.7125, F.S.

Section 8. Subsection (69) of section 316.003, F.S., is amended to correct a statutory cross reference.

Section 9. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 377.709, F.S., is amended to correct a statutory cross reference.

Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 487.048, F.S., is amended to correct a statutory cross reference.

Section 11. Section 403.704, F.S., is amended to delete certain obsolete language and dates relating to the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) powers and duties. Such provisions include:

- Holding public hearings to develop rules to implement the state's solid waste management program. This is obsolete because rulemaking provisions of s. 120.54, F.S., include workshops and hearings.

- Charging certain fees for certain solid waste management services. The DEP does not provide solid waste management services.
- Acquiring personal or real property for the purpose of providing sites for solid waste management facilities. The DEP does not provide sites for solid waste management facilities.
- Receiving funds from the sale of certain products, materials, fuel, or energy from any state-owned or operated solid waste facility. The DEP does not operate solid waste management facilities.
- Deleting certain requirements for Class II landfills. There are no longer Class II landfills being permitted in Florida.
- Conducting solid waste research to be used in the implementation of certain landfill closure rules. Landfill closure methods have been developed and the rules have been in place for nearly 20 years.
- Authorizing variances from the solid waste closure rules. Variances are already allowed under s. 403.201, F.S., and s. 120.54, F.S., for any solid waste rule, not just closure rules.

Section 12. Section 403.4043, F.S., is amended to delete obsolete language relating to compost standards rulemaking.

Section 13. Section 403.7045, F.S., is amended to clarify that industrial byproducts are not regulated under the Solid Waste Management Act if those byproducts are not discharged, deposited, injected, dumped, spilled, leaked or placed upon any land or water so that they constitute a threat of environmental contamination or pose a significant threat to public health.

Also, certain dredged material that is generated as part of a project permitted under part IV of ch. 373, F.S., or ch. 161, F.S., or that is authorized to be removed from sovereign submerged lands under ch. 253, F.S., shall be managed in accordance with the conditions of that permit or authorization unless the dredged material is regulated as a hazardous waste.

Section 14. Section 403.707, F.S., is amended to allow the DEP to exempt, by rule, certain facilities from the requirement for a permit if the construction or operation of the facility is not expected to create any significant threat to the environment or public health. An example would include the registration of yard trash processing facilities. For purposes of Part IV of ch. 403, F.S., (Resource Recovery and Management), and only when specified by DEP rule, permits may include other forms of licenses as defined in s. 120.52, F.S. This is intended to address an issue the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee has raised regarding DEP's authority to provide such exemptions, even if they are technically justified.

Provisions relating to biomedical incinerators are deleted. Biomedical incinerators are currently regulated under DEP's air rules.

Counties may exempt certain wood material from the definition of "construction and demolition debris" under certain conditions to promote an integrated solid waste management program.

Section 15. Section 403.7071, F.S., is created to provide for the management of storm-generated debris resulting from a storm event that is the subject of an emergency order by the DEP.

The DEP may issue field authorizations for staging areas in those counties affected by a storm event. These staging areas may be used for the temporary storage and management of storm-generated debris, including the chipping, grinding, or burning of vegetative debris. A local government shall avoid locating a staging area in wetlands and other surface waters to the greatest extent possible, and the area that is used or affected by a staging area must be fully restored upon cessation of use of the area.

Storm-generated vegetative debris managed at a staging area may be disposed of in a permitted lined or unlined landfill, a permitted land clearing debris facility, or a permitted C&D debris disposal facility.

Vegetative debris may also be managed at a permitted waste processing facility or a registered yard trash processing facility.

C&D debris that is mixed with other storm-generated debris need not be segregated from other solid waste prior to disposal in a lined landfill. C&D debris that is source-separated or separated from other hurricane-generated debris at an authorized staging area, may be managed at a permitted C&D debris disposal or recycling facility upon approval by the DEP of the methods and operations practices used to inspect the waste during segregation.

Unsalvageable refrigerators and freezers containing solid waste, such as rotting food, which may create a sanitary nuisance may be disposed of in a permitted lined landfill; however, chlorofluorocarbons and capacitors must be removed and recycled to the greatest extent practicable.

Local governments may conduct the burning of storm-generated yard trash and other vegetative debris in air-curtain incinerators without prior notice to the DEP. Demolition debris may also be burned in air-curtain incinerators if the material is limited to untreated wood. Within 10 days after commencing such burning, the local government must provide certain information to the DEP. The operator of the air-curtain incinerator is subject to any requirement to obtain an open burning authorization from the Division of Forestry of the DACS or any other agency empowered to grant such authorization.

Section 16. Section 403.708, F.S., is amended to delete some obsolete dates and to delete the term "degradable" because the term is not used in this section.

Section 17. Section 403.709, F.S., is amended to delete the specific percentages for the use of the funds in the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund (SWMTF). The current percentages were adopted by the Legislature in 2002 when a significant source of funding for the SWMTF was statutorily transferred to fund various water projects. The SWMTF'S purposes were refocused toward the core solid waste management responsibilities of the DEP and the funding percentages were to apply to: funding the DEP's solid waste activities; research and training programs relating to solid waste management through the Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management; mosquito control activities in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; litter prevention; and certain competitive and innovative grant programs. The percentages were to apply unless otherwise specified in the General Appropriations bill. These specific percentages have not been used in the General Appropriations bill.

This section is also amended to place time restrictions on certain liens imposed by the DEP.

Section 18. Section 403.7095, F.S., is amended to correct a cross-reference.

Section 19. Section 403.7125, F.S., is amended to delete the definitions of "landfill" and "closure" from this section. These definitions appear in s. 403.704, F.S.

The bill limits the use of an escrow account for the closure of a landfill to those landfills owned or operated by a local or state government or the Federal Government. Privately owned or operated landfills must provide other means of financial responsibility for the closure of landfills. However, any landfill owner or operator that had established an escrow account in accordance with the escrow provisions of this section and the conditions of its permit prior to January 1, 2006, may continue to use that escrow account to provide financial assurance for closure of that landfill, even if that landfill is not owned or operated by a local or state government or the Federal Government.

An owner or operator of a landfill owned or operated by a local or state government or by the Federal Government may provide other means of financial assurance to the DEP in lieu of the escrow account.

Section 20. Section 403.716, F.S., is amended to delete provisions relating to the training of operators for waste-to-energy facilities, biomedical waste incinerators, and mobile soil thermal treatment units or

facilities. The operators of these facilities are subject to the DEP's rules relating to training requirements under air permits. There has never been a separate solid waste training program for these operators.

Section 21. Section 403.717, F.S., is amended to revise the definitions of "waste tire" and "waste tire processing facility." The term "waste tire" will not include solid rubber tires and tires that are inseparable from the rim. These constitute a small percentage of the discarded tires and these tires are not amenable to recycling. Further, they pose little threat of fire, floating in standing water, or mosquito breeding.

The term "waste tire processing facility" is amended to provide consistency with the term "processed tire."

The provisions requiring a tire storage permit for a tire retreading business where fewer than 1,500 waste tires are kept on the premises is deleted. Currently, no permit is needed for storage of less than 1,500 tires anywhere.

Section 22. Section 403.7221, F.S., is amended, transferred, and renumbered as s. 403.70715, F.S. The DEP is allowed to issue a research, development, and demonstration permit to the owner or operator of any solid waste management facility, including any hazardous waste management facility who proposes to utilize an innovative and experimental solid waste treatment technology or process for which permit standards have not been adopted.

The time periods for such permits is extended from 1 year to 3 years, renewable no more than 3 times. This would remove a conflict with a similar Environmental Protection Agency rule regarding their research, development, and demonstration permits.

Section 23. Subsection (2) of section 403.201, F.S., is amended to correct a statutory cross reference.

Section 24. Section 403.722, F.S., is amended to clarify who must obtain a permit to construct, modify, operate, or close a hazardous waste disposal, storage, or treatment facility. This section is also amended to provide for authorizations issued by the DEP to include both permits and clean closure orders.

The bill further clarifies that if an owner or operator of a hazardous waste facility intends to or is required to discontinue operation, the temporary operation permit must include final closure conditions.

Section 25. Section 403.7226, F.S., is amended to delete a separate report on hazardous waste management. This information is included in the DEP's Solid Waste Management in Florida report.

Section 26. Section 403.724, F.S., is amended to provide that authorizations for hazardous waste facilities include both permits and clean closure plan orders. Further, the amount of financial responsibility that is required for hazardous waste facilities includes the probable costs of properly closing the facility and performing corrective action.

Section 27. Section 403.7255, F.S., is amended to clarify that signs must be placed by the owner or operator at any site in the state which is listed or proposed for listing on the Superfund Site List or any site identified by the DEP as a site contaminated by hazardous waste where this is a risk of exposure to the public. The DEP shall establish requirements and procedures for the placement of signs, and may do so in rules, permits, orders, or other authorizations.

Section 28. Section 403.726, F.S., is amended to allow the DEP to issue an order requiring the prompt abatement of an imminent hazard caused by a hazardous substance. Currently, the DEP may only issue a permit to abate such hazards.

Section 29. Section 403.7265, F.S., is amended to require that local governments match 25 percent of the grant amount for certain hazardous waste collection grants. Currently, eligible local governments may receive up to $50,000 in grant funds for unique and innovative projects that improve the collection of hazardous waste and lower the incidence of improper management of conditionally exempt or household waste, provided they match the grant amount. This bill would reduce the local match requirement to 25 percent of the grant amount; however, if the DEP finds that the project has statewide applicability and has immediate benefits to other local hazardous waste collection programs in the state, matching funds are not required.

Section 30. Sections 403.7075, 403.756, 403.78, 403,781, 403.782, 403.783, 403.784, 403.7841, 403.7842, 403.785, 403.786, 403.787, 403.7871, 403.7872, 403.7873, 403.788, 403.7881, 403.789, 403.7891, 403.7892, 403.7893, and 403.7895, F.S., relating to the Statewide Multipurpose Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Act, are repealed. This act has never been used and it is unlikely that a facility will ever be sited in Florida using these provisions. The repeal of s. 403.7075, F.S., relating to the submission of plans by certain persons to construct and operate a solid waste facility, is due to a conflict with the provisions in ch. 471, F.S., which regulates professional engineers. The repeal of s. 403.756, F.S., relating to a used oil report, is due to the fact that this information will be included in the DEP's Solid Waste Management in Florida report.

Section 31. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

   None.

2. Expenditures:

   None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

   None.

2. Expenditures:

   None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

There is not anticipated to be an economic impact on the general public. Many of the bill's provisions remove outdated or obsolete provisions and clarify several provisions as they relate to local governments and the Department of Environmental Protection.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

   Not applicable because this bill does not appear to: require the counties or cities to spend funds or take an action requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that cities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with cities or counties.

2. Other:

   None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

The Wildflower Advisory Council will now become advisory to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS). On the effective date of this act, the unexpended balance of the Wildflower license plates use fees will be transferred to the DACS. As of December 31, 2005, the balance, as reported by the Wildflower Advisory Council, is $690,095.62.

The Department of Environmental Protection will not longer be required to submit separate reports regarding hazardous waste management and used oil. This information will be consolidated in the department's Solid Waste Management in Florida report, thereby potentially saving personnel time and publication costs.
In order to be eligible to receive a hazardous waste collection grant, local governments currently must match the entire grant amount. This bill reduces the match requirement to 25 percent of the grant amount, and allows the match to be waived under certain circumstances. This may permit more local governments to take advantage of this grant program.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES